Gov't to appeal ruling closing Kuratong cases

STORY ON PAGE 2

P15

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PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLES Sunday

AUGUST 26, 2001 ★★ 60 PAGES 5 SECTIONS VOL.16 NO. 258

LIKE A VIRGIN, SIRA ANG IMAGE KO D'YAN!

Madonna not amused by condoms

LOS ANGELES—The "Material Girl" is not amused.

A US condom and sex toy retailer said on Friday it had started marketing a

MADONNA/ A15

6 killed in Abu ambush

BASILAN—Six people were killed when suspected Abu Sayyaf bandits fired at a jeepney on the boundary of Sumisip and Maluso towns yesterday. The suspects were apparently planning to stop the jeepney, loaded with sacks of rice and other supplies, but allegedly opened fire upon seeing soldiers. Killed were Hadji Mudjala, his grandchild, a six-month old baby, a militiaman, conductor Kojek Jinkakal and an unidentified man. Witness Omar Samat said the bandits carted away at least 20 sacks of rice and softdrinks. *Charlie Saceda*

Show must go on

7 senators oppose plan to terminate Ping probe

By Christine Herrera, Philip C. Tubeza and Armand N. Nocum

AN informal phone survey conducted by an alliance of civil-society groups has shown that at least seven senators are opposed to the proposal of their colleagues, Senators Blas Ople and Teresa Aquino-Oreta, to stop the public hearings on Sen. Panfilo Lacson's alleged criminal activities.

"The senators rejected the Ople-Oreta proposal to stop the probe. They said it was premature to terminate the proceedings at this point. Most of them wanted to hear the testimony of (witness Danny) Devnani," Jesuit priest Carmelo Caluag, convenor of the newly formed Samahan para sa Katotohanan at Kinabukasan (Katotohanan), told the INQUIRER yesterday.

According to Caluag, the seven senators who gave the assurance that the hearings would proceed were Ramon Magsaysay Jr., Francis Pangilinan, Renato Cayetano, Loren Legarda, Ralph Recto, Rodolfo Biazon and Sergio Osmeña III.

In a statement, Magsaysay said he "made a mistake in implying" on Friday that the Senate committee on national defense, which he chairs, was inclined to withdraw from the hearings.

SHOW/ A14

ONLY THE BRAVE REUTERS

Their mission: to build a canal to divert the near overflow of Mt. Pinatubo's crater lake. Supervised by the Department of Public Works and Highways, 96 Aetas scaled Mt. Pinatubo for five hours enduring gushes of lahar, boulders, chest-high waters and torrential rains. That's the easy part. Now, the hard part begins. *(Story on Page A2)*

Military could have delivered ransom, says solon

By Rocky Nazareno and Jonathan F. Ma
PDI Mindanao Bureau

ISABELA, Basilan—The military could have been "used" by the family of tycoon Reghis Romero II to deliver ransom money to his kidnappers holed up in the Dr. Jose Ma. Torres Memorial Foundation Hospital in Lamitan, Basilan, last June 2, a congressman said here yesterday.

Bukidnon Rep. Juan Miguel Zubiri said that the military could have created a chaotic situation to allow Romero to escape, a situation which the Abu Sayyaf bandits exploited to make their own escape too. This scenario emerged from the mass of testimony during the second day of hearings conducted by the House committee on national defense, as well as by questions raised by the congressmen themselves.

"Mr. Romero could provide us the important answers to this controversy," said Zubiri, one of 17 congressmen conducting the hearings in this island province to probe allegations by Lamitan parish priest Fr. Cirilo Nacorda that the military was in collusion with the Abu Sayyaf.

Zubiri said he would recommend to House committee on national defense chair Rep. Prospero Pichay that the committee summon Romero when the hearings resume in Manila.

But the question whether the troops were really pulled out of the area, thus allowing the Abu Sayyaf bandits to escape, remained unanswered.

Under intense questioning for three hours, Brig. Gen. Romeo Dominguez, the former commander of the military unit tasked to destroy the Abu Sayyaf, remained unable to explain why troops were reportedly withdrawn from behind the hospital. He said troops may have moved out to evade "friendly fire" from helicopter gunships, which fired rockets on rebel sniper positions on

MILITARY/ A14

Devnani: I wined, gambled with them

By Alcuin Papa and Armand Nocum

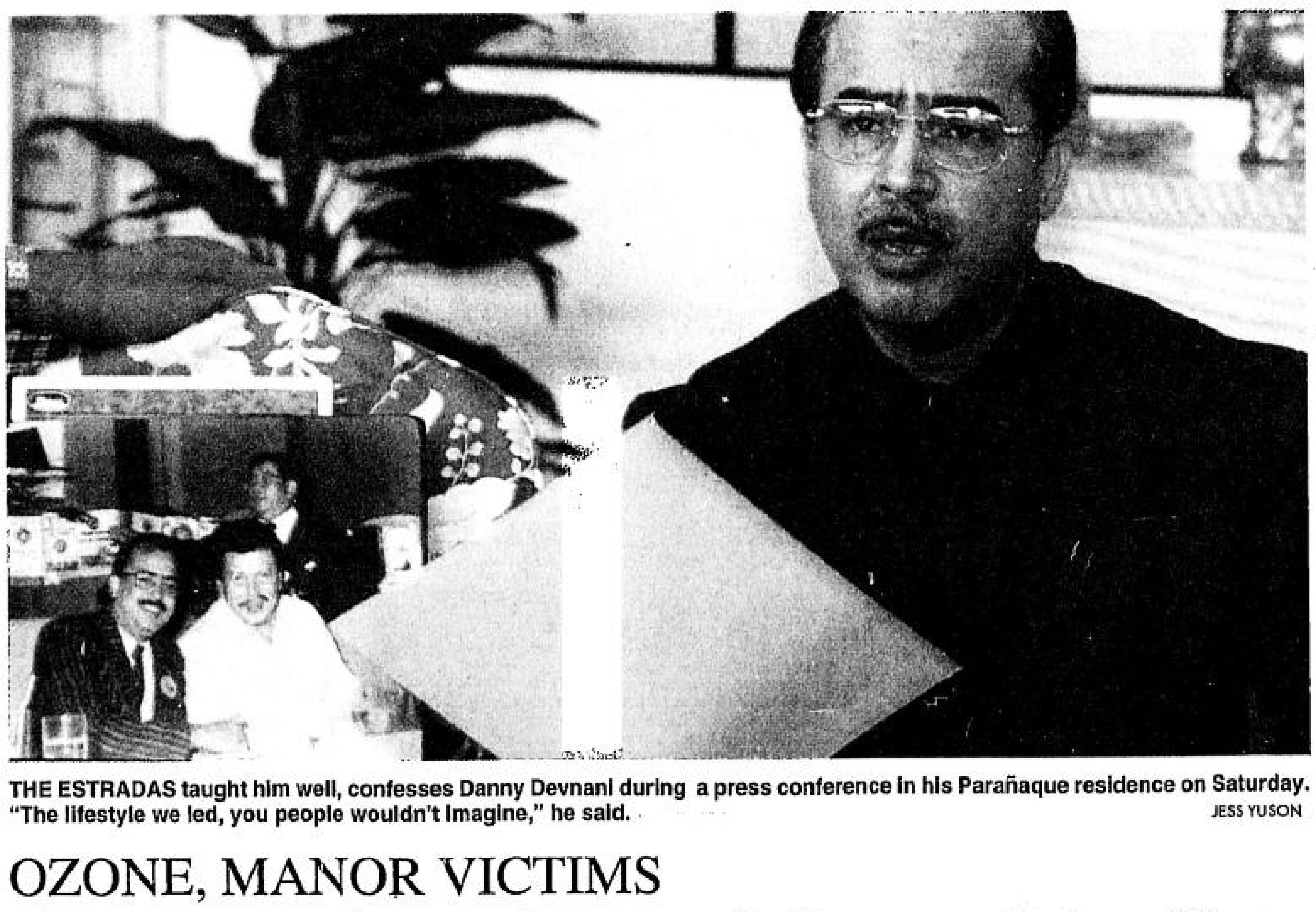
FORMER Club 419 "owner" Danny Devnani has a newly printed business card with the words: "Trust in God."

By his own account, it was to his later deep regret that Devnani, who appeared as a surprise witness before the Senate Thursday, once put his trust in a group of friends that included ex-President Joseph Estrada, son Jinggoy Estrada and gambling aficionado Charlie "Atong" Ang.

Yesterday, Devnani, 49, showed reporters a list of members of the former club on Wilson Street in Greenhills, San Juan, where Estrada admittedly used to go regularly "to meet his friends."

The list includes close Estrada friend and action star Fernando Poe Jr., owner of the Greenhills lot; San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito; Jaime Dichaves, the businessman who claims to be the real "Jose Velarde," Estrada's alleged alias; Eli Gardiner, a compadre who was appointed by Estrada as head of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration; businessman Anthony Dee, elected mayor of Angeles City

DEVNANI/ A14



THE ESTRADAS taught him well, confesses Danny Devnani during a press conference in his Parañaque residence on Saturday. "The lifestyle we led, you people wouldn't imagine," he said. JESS YUSON

OZONE, MANOR VICTIMS

An emotional bond forged in fire

By Volt Contreras

IT IS LITERALLY an alliance baptized in fire.

Claimants and survivors of the 1996 Ozone Disco fire have started helping the Aug. 18 Manor Hotel fire victims, comforting them in their grief and giving legal assistance in their fight for justice.

"Nobody could assist and sympathize with them deeper than us victims of the same neglect. We speak the same language," said Joseph Santos, who lost a cousin in the disco fire and became the founding president of the Justice for Ozone Victims Foundation.

Since the Manor disaster, Santos and other officers of the five-year-old organization have been holding meetings, plotting their moves and reviewing "the lessons we had learned" to help the mourning and still unorganized Manor victims.

Last Wednesday, when the fire claimed its 75th victim, 34-year-old Edwin Casaña, who had been confined at the Quezon City Medical Center, Santos received three calls from his confused and grieving relatives.

AN EMOTIONAL/ A15

Inquirer founder wins int'l award for journalism

EUGENIA Duran Apostol, founding chair of the Philippine Daily INQUIRER and president of Pinoy Times, has been chosen as the first recipient of the Knight International Press Fellowship Lifetime Achievement Award by the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ).

She will receive her award at the annual Excellence in Journalism dinner in early October at The Westin Fairfax Hotel in Washington, D.C.

The ICFJ, which is based in the United States, has worked since 1984 with more than 12,000 journalists in more than 170 countries.

EUGENIA APOSTOL: Really worthwhile years . . .

In a letter informing Apostol of the award, Knight International Press Fellowships director Susan Talalay said she was being honored for her "tremendous contributions to the media in the Philippines."

"Your work exemplifies the ideals for which so many struggle worldwide and can serve as a beacon for those journalists who work under the most desperate conditions," Talalay said.

In her more than half a century as a journalist, Apostol blazed trails in Philippine journalism and defied two presidents in the name of press freedom and democracy.

INQUIRER/ A14

Second FRONT PAGE

DAPAT LANG LUMITAW NA ANG KATOTOHANAN!

Gloria cites perils of globalization as she signs S'pore deals

BY MARTIN P. MARFIL

SINGAPORE (via PLDT)—President Macapagal-Arroyo, in the middle of a three-day visit to Singapore yesterday, warned that globalization would bring peril to the Philippines, as she signed a number of bilateral agreements with the rich city-state.

Massive trade flows and rapid advances in information and communications technology bring both peril and opportunities, the President said at a press conference yesterday.

"It is important that we minimize the perils and that is why we have to have a social bias to our development plans," she said.

"All of these things that we are trying to do, promoting investments, promoting information communications technology, all of these are means toward achieving the end of fighting poverty," she said.

To meet the challenges of globalization, solidarity among the Association of Southeast Asian Nations should be strengthened, as there is a need for a "common Asean voice and a common market," she said.

"What we should work on as a common denominator in Asean is a common market that people can identify with, because investments in this day of globalization and high technology go to large markets and this is what Asean should work for," she said.

The President said her meetings with Singapore's leaders have resulted in a commitment to "fast-track" economic cooperation between the two nations.

She said there were indications that Singapore business leaders were interested.

"I think many of them have realized what we're doing. Many of them did not know the details of the cases that I was able to discuss so I think many of them have been enlightened," she said.

In the various forums that she has addressed here, Ms Macapagal has tried hard to convince the Singaporeans that although kidnappings have continued, she is on top of the situation and that it was safe to travel to the Philippines.

She said her government was trying to forge a peace agreement with secessionists and rebels, leaving only the problem of the Abu Sayyaf.

"What we're left with is the terrorist group in Basilan and the way to address this is to wipe them out," she told a group of Singaporean reporters.

The President met with business leaders yesterday and witnessed the signing of several agreements which could bring much-needed foreign investments into the Philippines.

During a luncheon speech after one such signing ceremony, Singapore Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong said he would "like to expand bilateral cooperation" with the Philippines and said the memoranda of understanding signed yesterday would enhance ties.

Neither Goh nor Ms Macapagal forecast how much money was involved in the deals signed.

The agreements signed are intended to boost tourism, information technology cooperation, transport links and telecommunications-related businesses.

Ms Macapagal said the Philippines would continue to open its telecommunications sector to competition to raise the quality of service, increase the speed of connection and lower its costs.

During her visit, Ms Macapagal said information technology was a priority of her administration, noting that IT was a "natural advantage" for Filipinos.

She said the Philippines and India would lead the Asian region in software design and other IT-related fields.

With a report from AP

Gov't to appeal ruling closing Kuratong cases

BY JULIET L. JAVELLANA AND MICHAEL LIM UBAC

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo yesterday ordered government lawyers to seek a reconsideration of the Court of Appeals ruling closing the Kuratong Baleleng case against Sen. Panfilo Lacson and others.

"The Department of Justice and the Office of the Solicitor General are going to file a petition with the Supreme Court because the CA decision was based on a technicality," Press Undersecretary Bobby Capco said.

Capco said the law does not prevent the re-opening or re-filing of cases if new witnesses or evidence surface.

For his part, presidential spokesperson Rigoberto Tiglao told the INQUIRER, "The Justice department is confident the Supreme Court will overturn the CA ruling since clearly it put procedural matter (above) the substantive issue."

In its ruling, the appellate court granted Lacson's petition for a permanent injunction barring any more court proceedings in connection with the deaths of 11 suspected members of the Kuratong Baleleng gang in 1995.

It based its ruling on a technicality—the lapse of the two-year prescriptive period for reviving the case.

Old and new witnesses have claimed the alleged shootout of the gang members with policemen under Lacson's command was really a rubout.

Tiglao said that while the CA based its ruling on the Revised Rules on Criminal Procedures—which allows only two years for the re-investigation or re-filing of cases—the Revised Penal Code has a 20-year prescription period for murder cases.

The government can still prosecute Lacson, who is now a senator, despite the permanent injunction, according to a justice of the appellate court itself.

Associate Justice Buenaventura J. Guerrero, who wrote the dissenting opinion, said the government's hands were not tied in the prosecution of Lacson.

Guerrero rebutted point by point the grounds cited by his fellow justices for issuing the permanent injunction and declaring as null and void the preliminary investigation conducted by the DOJ and the complaints filed before a Quezon City court.

In his 16-page opinion, Guerrero said Lacson could not invoke double jeopardy once the government revived the cases against him since, he said, the senator "was never arraigned validly before the Sandiganbayan and was never arraigned at all before the Regional Trial Court, Branch 81, of Quezon City."

Thus, Guerrero said, the two-year prescriptive period for reviving the case (Section 8, Rule 117, of the Revised Rules of Criminal Procedures) did not apply in Lacson's case.

Guerrero said Lacson—despite his claim in his petition—had not been twice put in jeopardy of punishment with the filing of new cases by the DOJ against him on March 6, 2001.

Guerrero said jeopardy "is the peril into which an accused is placed when put on trial before a court of competent jurisdiction. The fundamental law prohibits the state from twice putting a person in such peril."

He said that to successfully invoke the defense of jeopardy, the following requisites must be present: a first jeopardy must have attached prior to the second; the first jeopardy must have been validly terminated and the second jeopardy must have been for the same offense; or the second offense includes or is necessarily included in the first offense.

"In the instant case, first jeopardy has not attached at all. Thus, although petitioner was arraigned before the Sandiganbayan, that court had no jurisdiction over the offense. Therefore, the first jeopardy did not attach because the necessary requisite that the information be filed before a court of competent jurisdiction was absent," Guerrero said.

The CA decision stemmed from a petition for certiorari filed by Lacson's lawyers to nullify the order of the Manila RTC on June 5, denying the petition for TRO against the preliminary investigation then being conducted by the DOJ.

On June 26, 2001, the CA granted Lacson's petition, which barred Quezon City Judge Theresa Yadao from issuing any warrant of arrest or continuing with proceedings in the 11 criminal cases.

The legal fight started when Ombudsman Aniano Desierto charged Lacson as the principal in 11 information sheets filed by his office before the Sandiganbayan.

In March 1996, Lacson questioned the jurisdiction of the anti-graft court with the SC. On Jan. 20, 1999, the SC directed the transfer of the cases to the QC RTC.

The DOJ decided to reopen the cases early this year when two witnesses surfaced and claimed to have knowledge of the alleged summary execution.

Militant groups yesterday lambasted the CA decision.

Bayan Muna Rep. Liza Maza said the chances of Lacson being formally sued in court after the CA decision and the Senate hearings he is currently involved in were "slim and none."

The situation might be a prelude to the senator's absolution by the Senate, she added. *With Christine Herrera and Philip Tubeza*

'Do or die,' Aetas brave rains to dig canal

BY TONETTE OREJAS
PDI Central Luzon Bureau

CAPAS, Tarlac—Their mission—to build a canal on Mt. Pinatubo's crater—was dangerous enough without the hazardous ascent to the 1,400-meter high crater.

"All of us here probably look at what we are doing here as a 'do or die' thing," said engineer Eduardo Bautista of the Department of Public Works and Highways when he reached the summit near dusk on Thursday.

While most of the 96 Aetas who were with Bautista had worked as guides for tourists visiting the volcano, they had never dared scale Mt. Pinatubo on a rainy day.

"It's so difficult. We did not just climb. We braved many dangers," said Nelson Pangilinan, chief of the Tarlac Tribal Aetas Association, who is helping to supervise the Aetas in the canal project.

The group includes 21 soldiers from the Army's Northern Luzon Command, five troopers from the Army's Special Operations Command (Socom) and six policemen from the Central Luzon Disaster Coordinating Council.

On Thursday, halfway through what was supposed to be a five-hour trek, the drizzle turned into torrential rains.

Along the route, mountains of lahar crumbled. They all scampered for their lives as boulders and rocks tumbled behind them. The winds howled, beating against bodies already weary from carrying heavy loads of food, picks and shovels, wheelbarrows, cooking stoves and tents.

Rains again loosened the ash, sand and pumice stones that Mt. Pinatubo discharged from its bowels 10 years ago.

Half of the group turned back, establishing temporary camps on nearby hills.

The five Socom soldiers retreated to secure the 100-kilo motor of a rubber boat that would have helped the Aetas cross the crater-lake to reach the critical Maraunot notch, the lowest rim of the crater where the canal would be built.

The Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology has warned that the water at this notch, already reaching 250 million cubic meters, could overflow or break out.

This would endanger the lives of 46,000 residents of Botolan town. Water escaping out of the crater could direct lahar onto the town.

More perils awaited the group. Five waterfalls had converged in a rock-filled uphill stream that was the only access to the crater, pushing back those in the group already exhausted from the journey.

At least 30 braved the torrents, hopping from one boulder to another, clutching wild bushes and shrubs for safety, not without suffering a few bruises.

Bring home a tourist, OFWs told

HELP the home country, bring along one foreign tourist a year.

This is the latest tourism-boosting idea from Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon who would like to turn the country's seven million workers abroad into "tourism volunteers."

"We are asking each OFW to bring at least one foreign visitor to the Philippines each year," said Gordon, who broached the idea to representatives of Filipino organizations in Singapore.

He predicted a sharp increase in tourist arrivals that would translate into income of more than $7 million if each of the 7.38 million overseas Filipino workers brought one foreign tourist to the country each year.

Gordon, who organized a volunteer corps in Olongapo City to rebuild and transform the abandoned Subic naval base into a world-class free port in 1992, joined President Macapagal-Arroyo on her state visit to the city-state.

The tourism secretary heads a political group called the Volunteers for a New Philippines.

"The overseas Filipino is the most natural and cost-effective resource that can be tapped to bring tourists to the Philippines," said Gordon.

The program, called V-12, was actually launched during Ms Macapagal's state visit to Malaysia early this month.

The initial batch of tourism volunteers is in that country where 640,000 Filipinos are currently employed.

Two agencies have already begun organizing workers in Malaysia.

Gordon, former Olongapo City mayor and first chair of the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, believes his success with volunteers in Subic and Olongapo can be replicated in parts of the world where Filipinos are employed.

Revenues from increased tourist arrivals will redound to the economy, Gordon said.

If tourism can become a support base for the economy, there would be no need for Filipino workers to go abroad, he said.

"It would not be necessary to leave the country to earn a decent living," Gordon said.

Last year, nearly two million tourists visited the Philippines, with each tourist spending an average of $1,056.75 for services.

"Our 7.38 million OFWs are well-placed in major travel markets worldwide, including Singapore. Their presence in these strategic countries gives every Filipino the unique advantage of being able to influence a great number of tourists from their areas to visit the Philippines," Gordon said.

Norman Bordadora

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USA SEMINAR DETAILS

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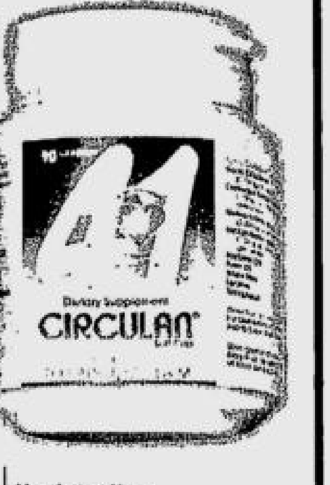

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MDs, groups demand more spending for public health

BY N. BORDADORA

AN ALLIANCE of doctors and other health professionals opposed to the privatization of public health services has urged President Macapagal-Arroyo to implement the World Health Organization standard of governments spending at least five percent of their gross national product for public health.

The Network Opposed to Privatization, an alliance of health workers' groups, said this year's national budget allocates just .40 percent of the country's GNP for public health services.

The alliance pointed out that while public health receives only two percent of the nearly P700 billion national budget, foreign debt payments take a gargantuan 20 percent from general appropriations.

"Citizens pay taxes from their hard-earned money. The government has to return these pesos in basic health services, which are a right of the people," said Dr. Remigio Mercado, convenor of the NO to Privatization alliance, in a statement.

"By resorting to fees-for-health services in lieu of an increased health budget, the state is abandoning its responsibility to the people," Mercado said.

Mercado, a former dean of the UP College of Public Health, said that with Filipinos numbering more than 70 million, the daily per capita allocation for public health services is only 53 centavos.

"Eight out of 10 Filipinos cannot afford to pay for health care they need despite modern technology and medical breakthroughs. The truly poor rarely reach hospitals, or when they do are already seriously sick or dying and almost end up with debts, which they could never repay in their lifetimes," Mercado said.

"Instead of allocating pesos for basic health services, the government has reneged on its duty to provide health services to its people. Public health services have acquired price tags," he said.

Mercado said the government is implementing the fee-for-service scheme and has increased hospital fees by a minimum of 20 percent.

Patients, he said, are now paying more for their medicines, laboratory tests, X-rays, anesthesia, oxygen, blood screening, blood sets, syringes, cotton balls and are also being charged for basic nursing care such as IV insertions, cleansing and dressing of wounds, patient's cards and medical certificates and even hospital parking.

"Health is a basic human right, and it is a government's primary responsibility to ensure that health care and opportunities for healthy living are assured," said the Health Alliance for Democracy in a statement e-mailed to the INQUIRER.

HEAD is a member organization of NO to Privatization.

"We condemn government's abandonment of its responsibility for the health of its citizens as it vigorously pursues privatization in subservience to imperialist globalization," Dr. Joseph Carabeo, secretary general of HEAD.

Marcoses seek new agreement with PCGG

BY BLANCHE S. RIVERA

AFTER several failed attempts to come to a settlement with the government on their fabled wealth, the Marcoses are again sending out feelers to the agency which has been running after them and their allegedly ill-gotten assets for the past 15 years.

Presidential Commission on Good Government chair Haydee Yorac said the Marcos family has indicated it was keen on another compromise agreement with the government.

At the same time, she said "many" individuals have also been communicating with the new PCGG officials to volunteer information on the assets allegedly stashed away by the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

"There have been feelers (from the Marcos camp), but who knows if these are only meant to titillate us?" Yorac said in a press briefing Friday.

"Many come to us, saying they have this or that information. We will deal with this very strictly, first because there are a lot of fools out there, and second, because there are a lot of wackos," the feisty PCGG chair said.

Yorac made it clear the PCGG was "open" to a possible compromise with the Marcoses and their cronies as long as the agreement would be "fair, just and honorable."

Such a compromise should also include an apology from the Marcoses to the Filipino people for the injustices done to the nation, she said.

A few years ago, the PCGG concluded a secret compromise agreement with the Marcoses concerning the $644-million Marcos deposits transferred from Switzerland and held in escrow at the Philippine National Bank.

But the Sandiganbayan anti-graft court rejected the settlement and awarded the money to the government. A motion for reconsideration is still pending before the anti-graft court.

Yesterday, Yorac said the PCGG would enforce at least one compromise agreement concluded with the Marcoses.

This concerns a 1992 agreement with Imelda Marcos for the return of around 50 "Old Masters" paintings to the National Museum worth an estimated $1 million each.

The agreement was never implemented and the paintings have been missing since.

Yorac said the PCCG was examining 26 boxes of documents from its New York office to find the paper trail of the paintings. The documents could also "guide (the PCGG) as to how the failure of agreement came about" which cost the government millions of dollars, she said.

In a related development, Speaker Jose de Venecia yesterday asked Yorac to "come up with a better plan" if she was rejecting his proposal to resolve the coconut levy issue through a negotiated settlement.

"If there is a better plan from the PCGG, Congress is ready to support it because we believe in chair Yorac's integrity," De Venecia said. ***With a report from Volt Contreras***

Two more party-list groups to take seats

THE SUPREME Court has upheld the victory of two more party-list groups, paving the way for Akbayan Citizens Action Party (Akbayan) Rep. Etta Rosales and Rep. Benjamin Cruz of the Luzon Farmers Party (Butil) to assume their seats in the House.

The Commission on Elections will proclaim Rosales and Cruz at 2:30 p.m. tomorrow.

The ruling came just 10 days after the high court upheld the victory of Bayan Muna, which was entitled to three seats after it received 11.36 percent of the total votes cast for party-list groups. Rosales and Cruz will join Bayan Muna Representatives Satur Ocampo, Liza Maza and Crispin Beltran in Congress.

Both Akbayan and Butil won a seat each in the House after they got 2.5 percent and 2.2 percent, respectively, of the 11.4 million total votes cast for party-list groups.

In a one-page resolution on Friday, the high court partially lifted the temporary restraining order of May 9, 2001 "to enable the Commission to proclaim the parallel party-list elections on May 14." The lifting was only partial, pending the resolution on the other petitions or comments filed by 15 other groups.

Rosales was the first to learn about the court resolution. "I went to the Supreme Court after I learned that the justices were having a special session last Friday," she said in a phone interview.

At first, she said, Akbayan's motion was not included in the agenda of the special meeting. "When I had a chance to talk to Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr., he told me to immediately go to the Clerk of Court," she said.

"Actually, the pink sheet containing the resolution was literally hot off the press," she said.

Michael Lim Ubac

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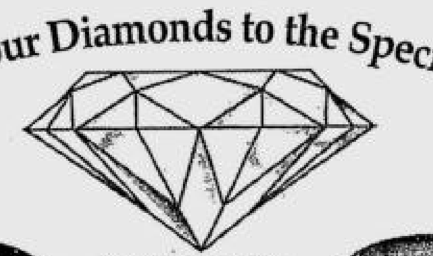

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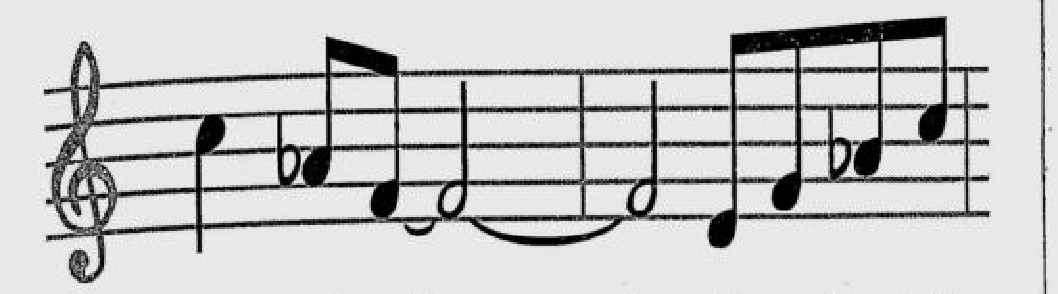

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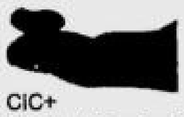

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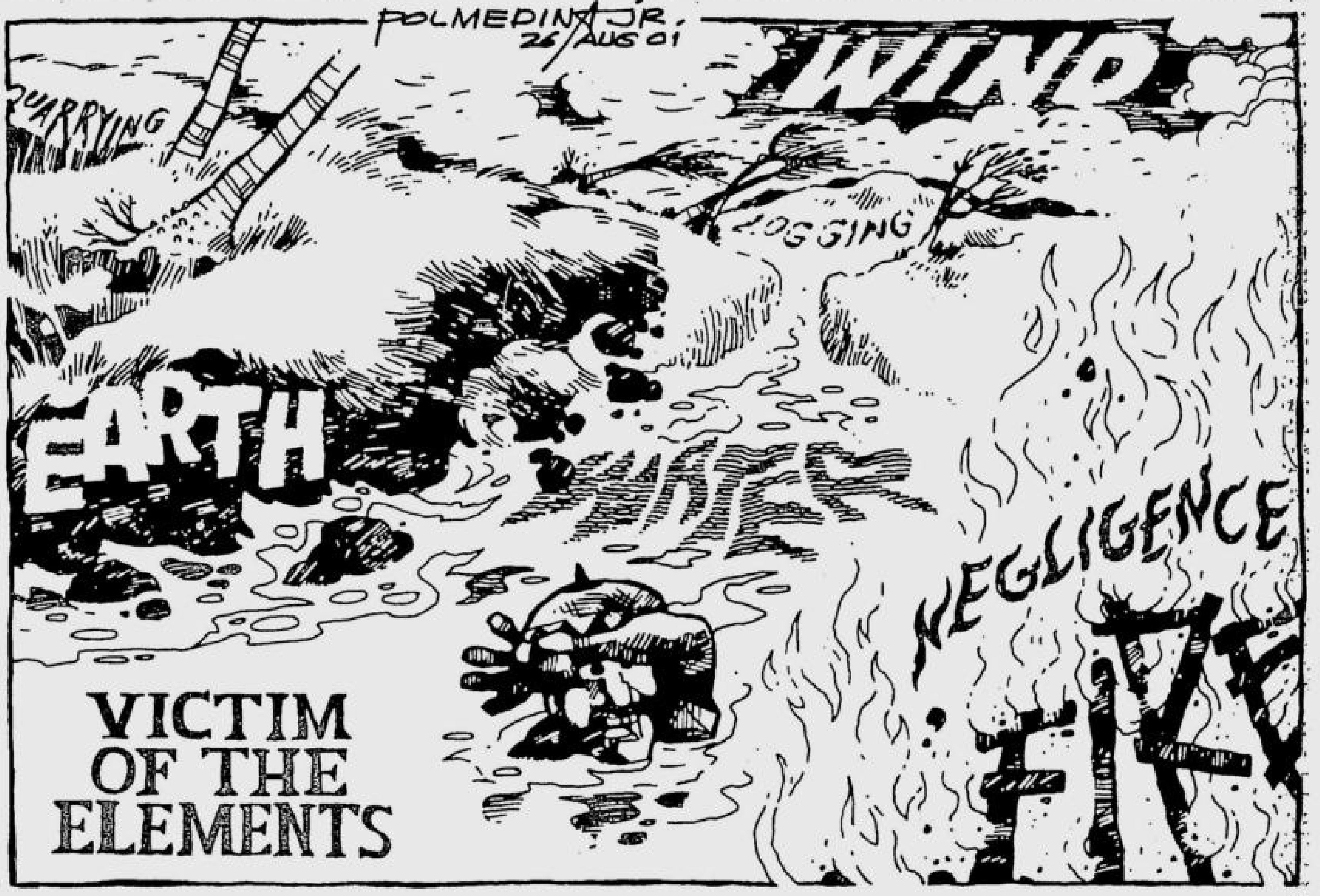

EDITORIALS

Wild goose

AWAKENING from his autodidactic slumber, Sen. Blas Ople on Friday called for a halt to the Senate investigation of Col. Victor Corpus' charges against former Philippine National Police chief and now Sen. Panfilo Lacson. According to Ople, the joint hearings of the committees on public order and illegal drugs, national defense and security, and public accountability (better known as the blue ribbon committee) have led the Senate into "an open-ended wild goose chase which seemed to lead nowhere, outside of providing a media spectacle, as though the Senate's main function was to serve as a catering establishment to provide entertainment to an avid audience."

It may be that Ople, who famously warned the Macapagal administration to beware of "the guns of August," was unduly harsh on those committee members who at least made an effort to attend the joint hearings. Surely he did not mean to cast his fellow senators in an unflattering light, to label as mere "entertainment" the strident statements of Majority Floor Leader Loren Legarda, who only meant to defend her honor, or the prosecutorial manner of Sen. Tessie Aquino-Oreta, who asked a witness leading questions prefaced by "These are just rumors, but..."

Those unforgettable moments from the first day of the joint hearings help explain the "avid audience" that a born-again democrat like Ople now complains of, but perhaps he did not mean to include his colleagues in his sweeping statements.

It should come as no surprise, however, that Ople would call for a stop to the inquiry, just as the evidence begins to mount. (Or, to put it another way, just when the guns of August are lobbing shells the opposition's way.) Indeed, it shouldn't even be a surprise that Oreta has seconded the motion: she explained that she was not going to attend future hearings anymore because these have become "storytelling time"—the unique Filipino shorthand for tall tales and lies.

When, at the impeachment trial of Joseph Estrada, history presented Ople and Oreta with an opportunity to find out more about the charges against a sitting president, they turned their back on it. As Sen. Aquilino Pimentel Jr. explained when he simultaneously voted to open the second Jose Velarde envelope and resigned from the Senate presidency, the only way to find out if the envelope had any bearing on the case was to open it. But such niceties in finding the truth apparently did not make an impression on Ople and Oreta.

Now that surprise witness Danny 'Devnani, Estrada's alleged frontman for Club 419, has come forward to testify about Estrada and Lacson's links to organized crime, they propose to end the inquiry. The skeptical Sen. Rodolfo Biazon is at least willing to give Devnani the chance to present a sworn statement at the next hearing, which is as it should be. But apparently Ople and Oreta have never seen an envelope they want unsealed, or unflattering evidence they want presented.

Golden egg

DURING the second day of the joint hearings, Sen. Sergio Osmeña III asked a plaintive question that focuses the issues emerging from the Lacson case in one easy-to-remember line. "If we find Senator Lacson innocent, will the public believe us?"

The object of his question was to prove that perhaps the Corpus charges were being heard in the wrong forum, that perhaps the military intelligence chief had laid an egg in the wrong henhouse. The question certainly deserves an answer.

Believability is a function of credibility. If the Senate conducts its hearings in transparent fashion, scrupulously following the rules without self-indulgence and without rushing to judgment, its findings on this or indeed on any other matter should be worthy of belief. This is not to say that these will not be questioned; this is not even to say that these have to be popular to be acceptable. The process only has to be credible.

Believability is also a function of responsibility. If the Senate does not confuse its own findings with a judicial judgment, if it does not assume the role of a judge as it conducts an investigation in aid of legislation, its findings, again, should be believable. The senators only need to be responsible.

An indelible blot

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

FROM THE WIDESPREAD angry reaction the legislative inquiry on Sept. 17 has provoked, I can say that the Senate has committed another monumental blunder. It confirms the popular disappointment that the once august body has deteriorated tremendously since its glory days under the Jones Law and up to martial law.

The Senate before was a distinguished body where strode the likes of Quezon, Osmeña, Recto, Laurel, Sumulong, Tañada, Diokno, Aquino and many other outstanding parliamentarians. The public may not always have agreed with them, but it admired and respected and trusted them.

The current roster of senators does not inspire similar emotions. It includes aberrations whose qualifications are far from reassuring unless they are being tested for histrionic mediocrity, athletic churlishness or language shortcomings. Their intellectual capabilities are another thing, or nothing. As for the other members, one can safely say, going by their antics last Friday, that they have little understanding of the decorum and fairness expected of persons entrusted with their honorable positions.

Many people are aghast at the way Ador Mawanay was maltreated by the Senate for failing to substantiate the alleged purchase of cell phones by Sen. Loren Legarda from Sen. Panfilo Lacson. This issue was raised not by Mawanay but Legarda herself. In fact, Mawanay did not mention it in his sworn statement because he said he did not have any evidence to support it. For this deficiency, he was declared in contempt and ordered detained until he corrected it. That was on its face a stupid order because he obviously could not have complied with it as long as he was immobilized in his detention cell.

It was particularly revolting when Sen. Ralph Recto saw fit to question that order and was sternly rebuked by Sen. Robert Jaworski, who arrogantly asked him, "On whose side are you, anyway?" The basketball player thus drew the "propesterous" line between Mawanay and Col. Victor Corpus on one side and the Senate on the other. The intimidated neophyte quickly retreated and concurred with the rest of his colleagues to make their decision unanimous.

Where were the even-tempered senators who could have counseled and restrained their impulsive colleagues?

Senate President Franklin Drilon has unilaterally justified—Mawanay's punishment, magisterially pronouncing his testimony as "false and evasive." Sen. Aquilino Pimentel, who moved for Mawanay's detention, now claims the public outcry against them is the work of propagandists. There has been no objection so far from Sen. Joker Arroyo, chair of the blue ribbon committee and erstwhile Erap nemesis. Senators Renato Cayetano, Francisco Pangilinan and Edgardo Angara—lawyers all—have not said a word in defense, not necessarily of Mawanay, but of the rule of law. Only Sen. John Osmeña has deplored the shameful incident and now ruefully admits that they deserve the people's "scorn."

Evidently, the senators were motivated more by their loyalty to their accused colleagues than to the canons of parliamentary practice and the strictures of the Constitution.

In the leading case of Arnault v. Nazareno, 87 Phil. 29, as affirmed in Arnault v. Balagtas, 97 Phil. 358, the Supreme Court sustained the imprisonment of the petitioner by the Senate for his "insolent and contumacious" refusal to identify the person to whom he had delivered part of the P500,000 appropriated by Congress for the purchase of the Tambobong-Buenavista Estate in 1949. The information could not have been unavailable to Arnault, but he stubbornly and arrogantly withheld it.

By contrast, Mawanay elaborated on the Legarda charge only because he was practically coerced to do so during his interrogation under oath. Unlike Arnault, Mawanay *was not intentionally disobeying* the Senate; no less important, he *was not insolent* like Arnault; and although Drilon was quick to pronounce his guilt, his testimony had not yet been established as "false and evasive." Yet he was held in contempt.

The power of legislative investigation is derived from the power of legislation and will itself give rise to the power to punish for contempt. This is justified under the doctrine of implication. Nevertheless, although there was really no need to expressly grant it, the power of Congress to investigate is provided for in Art. VI, Sec. 21 of the Constitution. The purpose of this provision, however, was not to confer this power on Congress but, on the contrary, to *limit* its exercise.

In the past, this power was much abused by some solons for the purpose of extortion, personal vendetta, or plain grandstanding. This notorious fact led to the inclusion of the cited provision in the 1973 and later the 1987 Constitutions to subject the exercise of the said power to three restrictions. These are: (1) the investigation must be in aid of legislation; (2) it must be conducted according to duly published rules of procedure; and (3) the rights of persons participating in or affected by it must be respected.

While the observance of the first condition may be conceded, the consensus is that the rights of Mawanay, and for that matter Corpus also, were not respected in the questionable proceedings. The two witnesses were prepared to present their evidence against Lacson but found themselves the targets of a vindictive and badgering inquisition from the senators. Their purpose was clearly not to discover the truth of the charges but to protect their own.

It is gratifying that, chastened by the massive public indignation over their arbitrariness, the senators have released Mawanay and thus impliedly acknowledged that they were wrong to detain him in the first place. This belated repentance of their high-handedness might mitigate but certainly cannot condone their outrageous act. It is a new low in legislative tyranny and will remain an indelible blot on the record of the Senate.

Facing a door

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

A DOOR says a lot. A door can free us or imprison us. A door can make us feel comfortable or make us feel insecure. A door can shield us or uncover us.

As we go on in life we will always encounter doors. Finally, at the end of our lives we will have to face either a door that leads to heaven or a door that leads to hell.

A door is a very good reminder that we all have to face ourselves, our deeds, our fears, our God some time. Do not take a door for granted.

* * *

The Gospel today (Lk 13:22-30) speaks of a narrow door, a narrow gate that could separate us or lead us to God at the end of our lives. There is a final judgment, where the good will be rewarded and the evil will be punished. It is very comforting to know that divine justice, though delayed, will catch up in the end. It is a very clear warning that those who do evil will not escape God's judgment. They may, for a while seem to prosper or get away with their evil ways. But that is only for a while. In the end, they will eventually face a door—a door that leads to life or a door that leads to condemnation.

* * *

In our country, sad to say, membership and who you know is still the key that opens doors. How often have I been amazed at how people who have and who have "connect" can have easy access to anything and to anyone. Likewise, how often have I experienced being turned away or barred because I did not belong.

How do you think the poor people feel when they are marginalized, turned away, or scorned and humiliated? How do you treat those who are not of your kind, not of your group, not one of your rank? How do you treat *ang mga mahihirap at mabababa lang*?

* * *

It is very comforting to know that our God is not some stubborn and unyielding security guard who requires an ID for entry. God sees the heart and the deeds of a person, more than his credentials or religious affiliation. Heaven is not an exclusive club meant only for the privileged and the chosen (self-righteous) few. We must not judge each other. We must not exclude each other. Rather we must try to go to heaven together, acknowledging that we are all sinners, but still confident that we have a loving and an understanding Father.

* * *

According to a "*tsismisology*" report I received, there are very few agents of "Taning" assigned to the Philippines. In fact, the Philippines is not considered a difficult assignment. They are the most underworked all over the world. Why? Because of dirty politics and dirty politicians. They do the work for him, with much gusto, and with great efficiency. As long as dirty politics and dirty politicians are around, Satan can afford to take a nap. No sweat. No worries. The politicians talk and make more money. In the meantime, the people suffer and go hungry. All is well, all is secured. Satan is contented and happy.

* * *

God does not sleep! He knows and He is in perfect control. Time and again, God has raised, and will continue to raise, people who "disturb" us and lead us to greater truths. It is the poor and the humble, *mga mabababa* that will serve as a wedge to open doors for us. The rich and the powerful hold the key in this country, but God will make a way through the poor, the humble, the truthful, the lowly.

* * *

It is the simple, the little, the humble ones that teach us life's best lessons. At dinner with Mama one evening, I requested our helper to dial a phone number for me. She came back and said, "I cannot contact him Father. But isn't he rich a person, Father?"

I was quite puzzled by her statement. The puzzle was solved when I dialed the number and I heard the taped voice saying, "The subscriber cannot be reached."

Come to think of it, our helper was right. Many times, rich people can not be reached!

* * *

Today is National Heroes' Day. Well, there are heroes and there are heroes. There are proclaimed heroes and there are self-proclaimed heroes. There are heroes of one of a kind and there are heroes in their own mind. This column wishes to salute the many hidden and unsung heroes in our midst who say little but love much.

* * *

Sept. 2 is the alumni homecoming of the Philippine Normal University. My Mama is an alumna of this prestigious school that has given quality education and quality educators through the years. It is high time we paid tribute to our unsung heroes, our teachers. We waste so much time and media mileage on traitors and plunderers of this country.

* * *

Care to see and know more about China? Care to join a pilgrimage to Naju, Korea? I will be joining a group leaving on Sept. 19-25 (China) and Sept. 26-30 (Korea). Contact 523-85-81/88 or 721-74-57.

* * *

I was looking at the word "BAYANI," and it struck me that if you want to be one, you have to make sure that BAYAN comes first, and is in fact bigger than the "I." Got civic leaders, public officials and military out there?

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me not to be afraid of a door, any door, that leads to truth and life. Amen

How to catch Ping Lacson

CROSSCURRENTS

Antonio T. Carpio

SENIOR Supt. Reynaldo Berroya has shown everyone the correct way of pinning down the former Philippine National Police chief and now Sen. Panfilo Lacson. Through stealthy and methodical sleuthing, Berroya and his men laid out a textbook entrapment of former Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force agents who were selling state-of-the-art bugging devices for P24 million.

Berroya's men, posing as private buyers, paid an earnest money of P2.4 million to prove their seriousness and good faith. This persuaded the unsuspecting former PAOCTF agents to allow Berroya's men to inspect, last Aug. 24, 2001, the bugging devices in a room in Discovery Suites Condominium along Ortigas Avenue, Pasig City.

Berroya's men came prepared. As soon as the bugging devices were verified as the German-made Rohde & Schwarz GA900 GSM tracker and DDF05M Digital Direction Finder, one of those who posed as buyers sent a coded text message to a SWAT team hiding in several vans along a side street. The SWAT team pounced on the former PAOCTF agents who were caught in the act of selling government-owned property.

Dean Edgar Ablan, president of Armstrack Corp., has turned over to Berroya a document, Contract No. 1999-10-25, notarized on Feb. 1, 2000, stating that the PAOCTF purchased from Armstrack the bugging devices for $653,116, with a 30 percent down payment. The contract was signed by Sr. Supt. Magtanggol Gatdula, deputy chief for operations, on behalf of the PAOCTF and by Ablan on behalf of Armstrack.

Ablan revealed that the bugging devices were delivered to the PAOCTF some time in April 2000 and were immediately tested at Clark in Pampanga. Ablan said the tests were successful and the PAOCTF issued a written acceptance of the bugging devices. Ablan, however, complained that the PAOCTF has until now failed to pay the 70 percent balance on the purchase price. He added that soon after Edsa Dos, some PAOCTF personnel brought back the bugging device to Armstrack for "safekeeping" at its Discovery Suites office.

The seizure of the bugging devices directly contradicts Lacson's testimony before the Senate at the height of the impeachment hearings last December 2000. At that time, Lacson stated under oath that the PAOCTF, which he then headed, never purchased or operated bugging devices. Now, there is documentary evidence, acknowledged before a notary public, that the PAOCTF had purchased bugging devices as early as February 2000. The Department of Justice can now charge Lacson with perjury.

Ablan and his vice president, Gertrudes de Leon, also claim that Lacson is behind the bugging activities of the PAOCTF. If Ablan and De Leon can substantiate Lacson's involvement in the bugging activities, then Lacson can also be charged with violation of the Anti-Wiretapping Law. After all, the PAOCTF could not have purchased and operated the bugging devices without the express approval of the PAOCTF chief, who at that time was Lacson himself. If Berroya's hackers can recover the deleted files in the hard disks of the bugging devices, then the evidence against Lacson will be overwhelming.

The former PAOCTF agents who tried to sell the bugging devices are liable for malversation of public property, an offense punishable with life imprisonment, given the amount involved. Whether or not there is evidence to link Lacson to the sale of the bugging devices is another matter. Unless the former PAOCTF agents rat on their former chief, Lacson may not be held criminally liable for malversation of the bugging devices.

Berroya's seizure of the bugging devices contrasts sharply with Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines chief Col. Victor Corpus' exposé on Lacson's alleged bank accounts worth hundreds of million of dollars. Berroya kept his operation completely under wraps until the bugging devices were seized and the peddlers arrested. Only then did Berroya call in the media and announce the successful operation. This is the work of a real professional.

On the other hand, Corpus went public with Lacson's bank accounts even before the existence of the accounts could be confirmed. Corpus relied principally on the word of Ador Mawanay, a self-confessed henchman of drug traffickers and smugglers. Mawanay has accused a senator of buying smuggled goods, and another senator of receiving payola. Now, the table is turned as many past victims of Mawanay, after his appearances on television, have recognized him as the mysterious and elusive person who has been swindling them over the years. Corpus' absolute faith in a character like Mawanay reveals a very naïve mind that could make the Isafp the laughingstock of the intelligence community.

In fairness to Corpus, he may after all be good in combat or field intelligence. When a commander receives reports from a military asset of enemy sightings in a remote sitio, the commander immediately responds by either sending a probe team or even setting up an ambush. But in criminal investigation, an investigator does not immediately go to the media once he receives a tip or a lead from an informer. The investigator must first verify and confirm the tip or lead. This is the failing of Corpus as investigator of money laundering and drug trafficking.

Fortunately, we still have an investigator like Berroya, who despite having been maligned by Lacson before the Chinese community, fought back by proving that Lacson was behind the bugging activities during the Estrada administration. Incidentally, we do remember that the kidnappers were also monitoring the phone conversations of the kidnap victims just before they were seized.

Goma, Canson should leave MAD

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

FINALLY, we hear the side of MAD, or Mamamayan Ayaw sa Droga, on the "exposé" of Col. Victor Corpus on the inroads that "narco-politics" have been making in this country.

Or at least, the side of MAD as perceived by someone who seems quite knowledgeable about its membership and advocacy. Neither MAD nor Drug Watch, the two biggest (supposedly) non-government anti-drugs groups, has responded after I asked what they had to say about Corpus' revelations. But journalist Miriam Grace Go "ventures to share some answers":

"At the heart of Col. Vic Corpus' exposé on drug trafficking and laundering of drug money is Sen. Panfilo 'Ping' Lacson. And there lies MAD's weakness.

"Lacson is the common denominator of disgraced former President Joseph Estrada, who himself has been linked to drug syndicates, and MAD's No. 2 nominee, retired police general Jewel Canson. Estrada, in turn, is the link between Canson and MAD's No. 1 nominee, actor and sportsman Richard Gomez.

"I am not prejudging Lacson and Estrada, pending the government's presentation of solid evidence (proving) their drug links, but perception is the name of the game for now. And it's precisely because of the two nominees' ties with Lacson and Estrada that the group to which they belong has been robbed of the moral authority to stand up and denounce the looming transformation of the country into a narco-state.

* * *

"BECAUSE of these two men's associations, MAD, in an electoral campaign immediately following Edsa II, was accorded by various camps criticisms and scrutiny beyond what it deserved...

"Gomez, I believe, is a clean-living person who sincerely wants a significant role in the fight against the social menace that is drugs. I admit I can't think of a more perfect image model for MAD but him. But when he starts calling on Ronald Lumbao to gather rallyists for him, and gives JV Ejercito the license to claim, unrightfully, that he is 'the moving spirit behind MAD' he opens MAD to persecution (*and criticism—RJD*). It reduces MAD's struggle to be recognized as a party-list winner into a mere extension of the GMA-Erap bickering.

"Canson is the bigger problem. Not only because he, like Lacson, has been implicated in the sensational Kuratong Baleleng rubout case, but because he was chief of the National Drug Law Enforcement and Coordinating Center, under Lacson's PNP, when confiscated shabu, it is reported now, were not properly accounted for and, therefore, could have been recycled for street sale.

"Canson is also the root of the biggest issues that confronted MAD during the campaign. Because of Canson, people obviously mistook the MAD Foundation, which participated in the party-list election, and the DEP Center as one and the same. And we'll never know what agreements he entered into as head of the DEP Center that could have benefited unwitting souls within the MAD Foundation. (For that, couldn't he be charged for graft?)

"But *delicadeza* seems to have escaped the ex-police general, who, I suspect, wants a seat in Congress to save his butt in the face of a possible reopening of the Kuratong case...

* * *

"I HAVE this sneaking suspicion that the Comelec (with the Palace's blessings?) is willing to proclaim MAD if only its list of nominees is purged of these controversial...personalities. (Remember it has the power to disqualify just the nominees and not necessarily their groups.)

"But Canson and Gomez, as we can see, are holding out. Apparently, the two are convinced that they alone were responsible for the impressive number of votes that MAD garnered—because Gomez was popular, and because Canson extracted from Lacson the commitment to carry MAD on some batches of his sample ballots. They are self-deceived.

"For one, I know a lot of people who immediately liked MAD, from the very creative acronym and eye-catching logo to the effectiveness of its barangay-level information drive, concepts which I believe Canson and Gomez could not (have) come up with on their own. For another, it is a known fact that countless Sangguniang Kabataan officials campaigned for MAD because it mirrored their long-running anti-drug advocacy. Young people who put up MAD posters in our province tell of instances when strangers came up to them and asked for posters they themselves could put up in their areas '*kasi laganap ang droga sa amin,*' and not because they equated MAD with Gomez.

"When it participated in the party-list race, offering to pursue an emerging national concern, and when people started identifying with its cause, MAD ceased being the property of its supposed founders; MAD became an advocacy that belonged to those who voted for it and the families and communities that these voters represented.

"To my mind, Canson and Gomez refusing to throw in the towel is therefore tantamount to hostaging the victory of the 1.5 million voters who, by casting their votes for MAD, made their little contribution in preventing the reign of narco-politics in this country. And because the sight of Gomez denouncing Erap, and of Canson denouncing Lacson, is just unlikely and plain incredible, these two are effectively gagging the greater majority of MAD advocates who, I am sure, are itching to join Vic Corpus' crusade."

* * *

MY GOOD friend Emma Coinco, who is based in Los Angeles, wrote to appeal on behalf of her sister, Lucy Coinco Castañeda, who is battling late-stage breast cancer and has started her chemotherapy.

She requires blood transfusion "almost constantly," and thus her family and friends are appealing to anyone willing to donate blood, type "O." Blood donors are requested to proceed to the Orthopedic Hospital on Banaue, Quezon City and credit the donated blood to "Lucia Castañeda." Calling all friends and families of the Coincos and Castañedas. Here's our chance to rally in support of Lucy, her family and her siblings!

Strengthening institutions

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

PEOPLE lose faith in their institutions first, when those in charge of them exploit them for their personal benefit, and second, when they do not produce definite and useful results.

Institutions are the established means by which a society conducts and regulates its collective affairs. When they fail to do their work, people feel justified to resort to other means to secure the things they value—justice, personal liberty, security, livelihood, etc.

All around us we see symptoms of a breakdown in the structures of our collective life. On two occasions in the last 15 years, we needed to take to the streets to oust corrupt and abusive leaders. Entire families, constituting about half of our population, try to survive without stable jobs or homes. In our major cities, children and the elderly roam the streets seeking alms. People routinely take the law into their own hands to settle personal disputes. Homeowners put up iron gates and hire private security guards to protect their communities. And so on. These are not signs of a nation that is confident about its institutions.

Much is demanded of those who occupy the most visible positions in our public life. We are fortunate to have a credible Chief Justice at a time like this. The public trust he enjoys is a boon to the entire Supreme Court. The decisiveness that the Court displayed in the period following the political upheaval of January 2001 did much to strengthen our constitutional order. Today we look impatiently to the Ombudsman and the Sandiganbayan justices for similar assurances that our justice system works.

We look to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo for affirmation that it was correct for the nation to allow her to succeed to the presidency without benefit of an election. The plans she laid out at her first State of the Nation Address showed that she knew what the public pulse was. Now everyone is waiting to see if she can deliver on those plans.

We look to the leadership of both chambers of Congress to craft relevant legislation in these uncertain times. Congress is the most important national forum for discussing the problems of our society. We expect legislators to study these problems carefully, hold hearings when necessary and not waste their time building waiting sheds or identifying road projects. They must leave executive decisions to administrators, just as they must not usurp the investigative and judicial prerogatives of the police and the courts. An exception is made for the committee on public accountability which is explicitly charged with the task of conducting hearings in aid of prosecution.

Our people have seen enough of the failure of our public institutions to make them skeptical about government as a whole. Public officials must contend with this persistent distrust. They have a duty to conduct themselves in a manner that puts them always above suspicion. Accepting gifts from businessmen the way Sen. Panfilo Lacson accepted cell phones from Kim Wong, who also paid his monthly phone bills, only aggravates this distrust. Both Lacson and Wong are now accused of involvement in drug trading.

In focus for the past two weeks is the Senate as an institution. Damaging information on the alleged criminal activities of a newly elected senator has reached the media. The principal source of the information is no less than the Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (Isafp). When the Senate took cognizance of the matter, its first concern however was to ask why the Isafp was gathering information like this, who authorized the investigation and why the information was leaked to the media. The senators appeared more concerned with protecting one of their own than with determining what the information was and what it meant for the country.

This attitude elicited vigorous reaction from a public that has not forgotten how members of the same Senate blocked the presentation of crucial evidence about the criminal activities of the former president. But even more dismaying was the arrogant behavior of some senators who earned enormous public esteem during the impeachment trial but now seem to have lost all high-mindedness. It may take time before the injuries the Senate has inflicted upon itself will fully heal. In the meantime, the senators must do something to appease the chronic doubts of a cynical citizenry.

To terminate the Senate hearings at this point would not only be unfair to the parties concerned, it would also be dangerous. Lacson denies maintaining accounts in any foreign bank, and has offered to waive his right to the confidentiality of these accounts if they exist. That is a good start. The Senate must now act to perfect that waiver so that the banks in which the accounts are supposedly kept would accept it.

If the banks named by the Isafp deny that Lacson or his wife ever maintained accounts with them, then the public should ask Isafp chief Col. Victor Corpus to publicly apologize to Lacson and the nation, retire from the Armed Forces and face the consequences of his recklessness. I am certain the Filipino people would then be prepared to believe that Lacson had been unjustly maligned and persecuted, and is therefore likely to be innocent also of all the other charges raised against him. But if the banks confirm the existence of any of these accounts, then clearly the senators have a duty to protect the Senate by throwing him out.

A definite closure like this would go a long way toward strengthening our institutions.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

A past that GMA has not forgotten

COMMENTARY

Jose Ma. Montelibano

IT would have been funny if it were not President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo who said those things about the Council on Philippine Affairs (Copa). After all, Copa expects all kinds of ugly things to be thrown its way. If anyone would name all the personalities mentioned in Copa critiques or criticisms, the list would be a veritable Who's Who of Philippine politics.

Copa member Triccie Sison asked me through a text message if I knew who was behind the demolition job on Copa. As I was texting back to her the various possibilities, I realized I was running out of space. There are that many people who may have an ax to grind against Copa. And that shouldn't come as a surprise at all.

Copa is an advocacy group determined to awaken people and get them to be informed, concerned and involved on issues affecting the nation. In more critical times, such as during the Chavit Singson exposé on Joseph Estrada, Copa shifts to high gear and becomes an organizer of mass movements as well. Or, in just as critical times but with a different direction, it becomes a founding member of organizations like the Citizens' National Network Against Poverty and Corruption. Through CNN-APC, Copa contributes its resources and connections in the field toward forging a united front against poverty and corruption.

Of course, on its own Copa also initiated a fund drive to help private prosecutors sustain their efforts to secure Estrada's conviction by the courts. Today, it is busy cajoling more and more Filipinos here and abroad to actively participate and contribute in rebuilding a wounded nation.

But it is not while in a "help mode" that Copa has attracted national attention. It is rather when it is in an "attack mode" that Copa generates controversy after controversy.

Gloria and Mike Arroyo know this better than anybody. They have worked with many of the Copa founding members even before it was formally established. After all, it was her presidential ambition that led her to a group, which is now known as Copa.

In the last quarter of 1997, just when Gloria had finally caught Joseph Estrada in the popularity ratings, an unfortunate parting of ways between her and the soon-to-be Copa founders happened. Why it happened is a story in itself, but I'm sure there will be two conflicting versions of it.

What happened then is something that is better forgotten, but it is nonetheless a crucial piece of a puzzle in the Gloria and Copa affair.

Newspaper reports, which were never denied by Malacañang, had Gloria saying that Copa was never for her. If she really said that, it means that the past was really never forgotten. Which says a lot about her call for healing and reconciliation.

But the lady must have been simply honest in her statements. If her comments were spontaneous, then she displayed her true sentiments.

Copa members should not fool themselves. The truth is that Gloria has never forgotten, or forgiven, that fateful parting of ways. It matters little if principles were involved—our principles and theirs, too. Only the parting is remembered—the parting and the subsequent collapse of an amazing "informal" campaign which started in early 1996.

The parting hurt many Copa members deeply as they had invested a lot in Gloria. And I am sure it hurt Gloria badly as well, although things did turn out well for her in the end. Her slide to the vice-presidential slot under the Lakas banner earned her a lopsided electoral victory and the opportunity to take over what Joseph Estrada threw away.

It is true that Copa did not undertake the struggle against Estrada for Gloria. It is equally true that Copa was for the higher interests of the country, for change without bloodshed if possible, and for a succession mandated by law. The pervasive sentiment was to remove Estrada more than to install Gloria. That was why it was as funny to hear the Estrada propaganda machine declare that Copa simply wanted to make Gloria sit in power before her time.

It is to the credit of some individuals that they did not allow personal feelings for or against Gloria to get in the way of working out a solution to a national crisis. What became primordial was to remove a moral blight from the highest position in the land.

There were many times when weariness and depression overwhelmed Copa operators and questions like "What are we doing this for?" would be thrown across the table. The answer was always: Definitely not for Gloria but for something much greater—like God, country and family. Whenever we were on the verge of giving up, we would think of God, country and family. Not Gloria.

And when we objected to the retention of Gen. Angelo Reyes as AFP chief of staff, we were not going against Gloria. It just did not come across so well to a people-powered victory that an enemy was rewarded for jumping ship when there was no other intelligent choice. Yes, suicide was an option, as was a firefight between brother soldiers inside Camp Aguinaldo itself. But they were not intelligent options or viable ones. It was natural, even obligatory, for Copa to demand that those who risked more should be acknowledged and appreciated first. To have remained silent would have given its allies the message that Copa forgets too soon, too easily.

When Copa objected to the grant of special privileges to an ex-president charged with plunder, it was not aimed against Gloria but her propensity to try to please everybody, including those who truly hate her and who would not hesitate to destroy her. Instead, Copa pushed for a fund drive to help private prosecutors mount a parallel effort to convict Estrada.

When Copa objected to having Jose de Venecia as speaker of the House, it was not going against Gloria either. It was to honor the clamor for change, meaningful change and to promote the movement for new politics. We knew it was a losing cause, but it had to be articulated.

De Venecia is now the speaker, and we accept that. Some Copa members are even pleased with that. No one among us hates De Venecia, but we thought we needed a more appropriate symbol in the House to represent the aspiration for new politics.

What about the Marcoses? What about the Marcos cronies? What about the Estrada cronies? What about the hungry Filipinos? What about the jobless Filipinos? What about the culture of corruption, the drugs and the killings? Copa has taken these on, and intends to continue doing so.

Copa will try to destabilize the framework of attitudes and structures which nourish what is wrong and evil in our society. If Gloria will be made to believe by sycophants around her that she is being destabilized as well, then Copa will, indeed, lose a powerful ally in its campaign for meaningful change. But Copa will still go on.

Jose Ma. Montelibano is a member of the Council on Philippine Affairs.

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TALK OF THE TOWN

JOHN NERY, Editor

Join the discussion. E-mail us at talk@inquirer.com.ph

Can we stop the fire next time?

THIS much is clear. A full year before the Quezon City Manor Hotel fire claimed 74 lives, the hotel management had already been warned of first 11, and then eventually seven, major violations of the fire safety code. Only two months before the fire, the violations remained unattended to: most glaringly, the fire exits remained obstructed. The hotel was given 24 hours to clear the routes to the fire exits. That was several weeks before the fire.

None of this is really news, of course. When Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte says collusion between the management and the government agencies regulating the establishment was a "logical conclusion," he was only giving voice to conventional wisdom.

This raises the inevitable question: Is there enough political will to stop the fire next time?

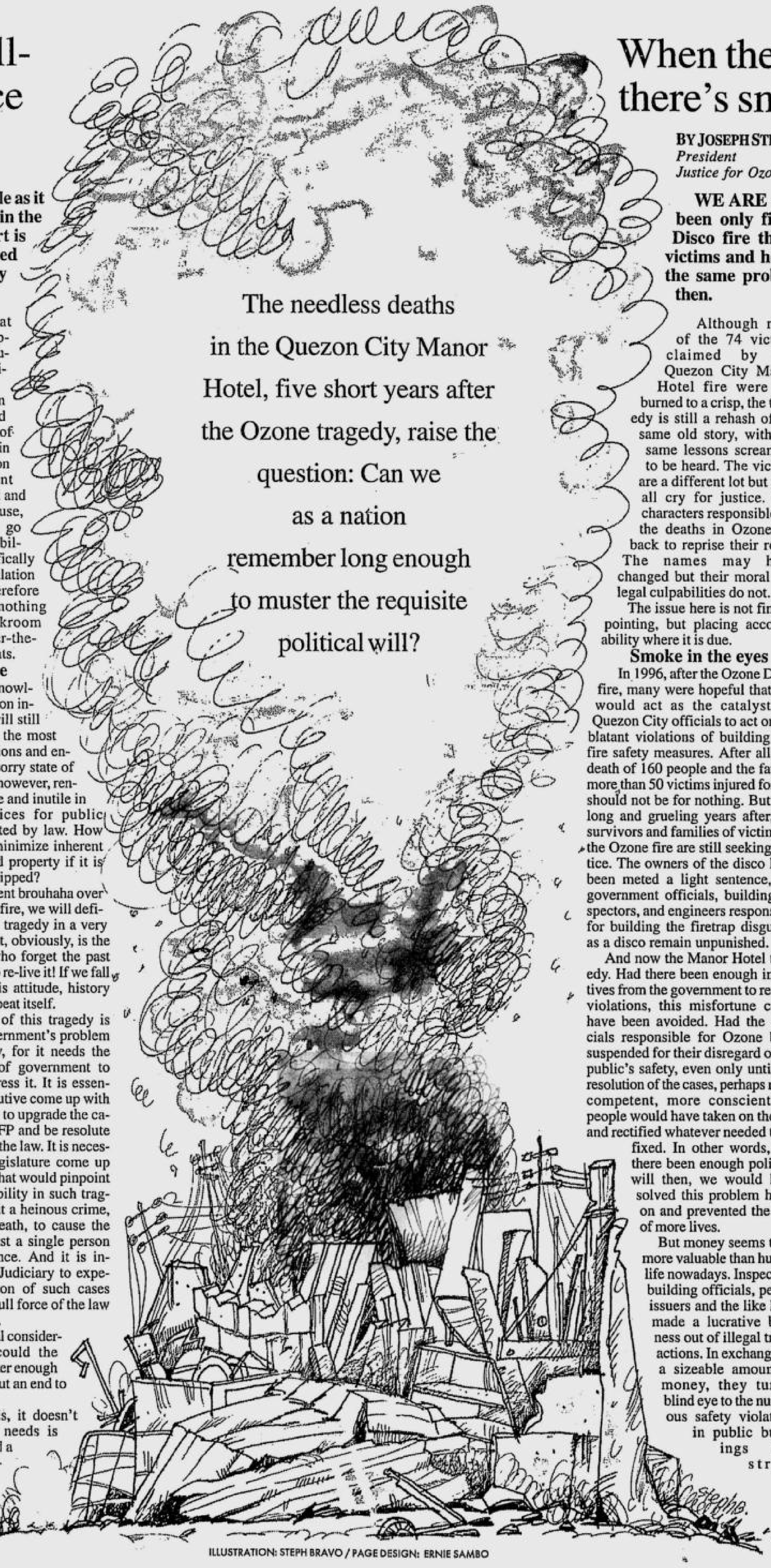


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO / PAGE DESIGN: ERNIE SAMBO

The needless deaths in the Quezon City Manor Hotel, five short years after the Ozone tragedy, raise the question: Can we as a nation remember long enough to muster the requisite political will?

A toothless law, an ill-equipped Fire Service

BY ALVIN C. ESTRADA
Spokesperson
United Fire Fighters of the Philippines

AS IF the country did not have enough trouble as it is, 74 innocent people were needlessly killed in the Quezon City Manor Hotel fire. The sad part is that the tragedy could have been prevented had it not been for the Filipino's legendary short memory.

The Manor Hotel fire is the fourth fire-related tragedy to hit the country (the third for Quezon City) in a period of five years. First in the string of tragedies was Ozone Disco, followed by the Lung Center after a little over a year, and then by the Damas de Filipinas Orphanage after barely six months. In between these tragedies were numerous catastrophic fires that did not warrant the same attention because casualty tolls were not that high although the damage to property was staggering.

Four tragedies in a little over five years is preposterous. *Our* failure to learn the tragic lessons three times in a row is symptomatic of a dangerous social disease: apathy. If this attitude is not corrected we will degenerate to nothing more than a masochistic society.

Root causes

One need not be a genius like Angelo "Ador" Mawanay to figure out that the root causes of all these tragedies are a toothless law and an ill-equipped Fire Service—a surefire formula for catastrophe.

Presidential Decree 1185 or the Fire Code of the Philippines is an outdated and abridged version of the 17-volume code of the National Fire Protection Association. Making sense of the 17 volumes in a single volume was no mean feat but the result was clearly inadequate, full of holes and with lots of gray areas.

The Bureau of Fire Protection is mandated by law to enforce the Code and yet it does not have the power to do so. The BFP can inspect, cite and notify violators, and yet it **cannot** unilaterally close an erring establishment. It is for this reason that finger-pointing, except with this latest tragedy, has been possible with the Ozone, Lung Center and Damas de Filipinas fires. With the evolution of the BFP (from the Philippine Constabulary—Integrated National Police to the Philippine National Police to the BFP) through the Local Government Code, the confusion in these gray areas became a stimulus for chaos and confusion resulting in graft and corruption.

Compounding the problem is an ill-equipped Fire Service. The United Fire Fighters of the Philippines has continuously verbalized the inherent dangers of this inadequacy even before the Ozone tragedy. Yes, despite the string of tragedies, it is plainly evident that the Fire Service still lacks even the most basic of equipment like protective gear, hoses and nozzles, forcible entry tools or smoke ejectors—all of which could have made a tremendous difference in all these.

It should be stressed, in no uncertain terms, that it is the job of the government to promulgate and enforce regulation, penalize those who violate the law and if, despite its efforts something still goes wrong, make sure that damage to property and loss of human life is minimized.

PD 1185 is an incomplete and outdated piece of work. Confusion in its implementation and enforcement only breeds graft and corruption because, should anything go wrong, responsibility is not specifically pinpointed. Regulation and penalty therefore degenerate to nothing more than backroom deals and under-the-table arrangements.

Sorry state

Our own acknowledged imperfection insures that fires will still occur even with the most stringent regulations and enforcement. The sorry state of the Fire Service, however, renders it inadequate and inutile in providing services for public safety as mandated by law. How on earth can it minimize inherent losses to life and property if it is not properly equipped?

After the present brouhaha over the Manor Hotel fire, we will definitely forget this tragedy in a very short while—that, obviously, is the danger. Those who forget the past are condemned to re-live it! If we fall prey again to this attitude, history will definitely repeat itself.

The urgency of this tragedy is that it is the government's problem in a unique way, for it needs the three branches of government to collectively address it. It is essential that the Executive come up with a viable program to upgrade the capability of the BFP and be resolute in implementing the law. It is necessary that the Legislature come up with legislation that would pinpoint precise responsibility in such tragedies and make it a heinous crime, punishable by death, to cause the death of even just a single person through negligence. And it is incumbent on the Judiciary to expedite the resolution of such cases and enforce the full force of the law on the offenders.

The primordial consideration now is, could the government muster enough political will to put an end to these tragedies?

The answer is, it doesn't need to. All it needs is compassion...and a little bit of common sense.

When there's fire, there's smoke

BY JOSEPH STEPHEN SANTOS
President
Justice for Ozone Victims Foundation

WE ARE a nation that easily forgets. It has been only five years since the tragic Ozone Disco fire that extinguished the lives of 160 victims and here we are again, beleaguered by the same problems and woes that haunted us then.

Although most of the 74 victims claimed by the Quezon City Manor Hotel fire were not burned to a crisp, the tragedy is still a rehash of the same old story, with the same lessons screaming to be heard. The victims are a different lot but they all cry for justice. The characters responsible for the deaths in Ozone are back to reprise their roles. The names may have changed but their moral and legal culpabilities do not.

The issue here is not finger-pointing, but placing accountability where it is due.

Smoke in the eyes

In 1996, after the Ozone Disco fire, many were hopeful that this would act as the catalyst for Quezon City officials to act on the blatant violations of building and fire safety measures. After all, the death of 160 people and the fate of more than 50 victims injured for life should not be for nothing. But five long and grueling years after, the survivors and families of victims of the Ozone fire are still seeking justice. The owners of the disco have been meted a light sentence, but government officials, building inspectors, and engineers responsible for building the firetrap disguised as a disco remain unpunished.

And now the Manor Hotel tragedy. Had there been enough initiatives from the government to rectify violations, this misfortune could have been avoided. Had the officials responsible for Ozone been suspended for their disregard of the public's safety, even only until the resolution of the cases, perhaps more competent, more conscientious people would have taken on the job and rectified whatever needed to be fixed. In other words, had there been enough political will then, we would have solved this problem head-on and prevented the loss of more lives.

But money seems to be more valuable than human life nowadays. Inspectors, building officials, permit issuers and the like have made a lucrative business out of illegal transactions. In exchange for a sizeable amount of money, they turn a blind eye to the numerous safety violations in public buildings and structures. This kind of transaction is no longer a secret. The onslaught of these catastrophes brought about by some people's neglect and outright disregard for the public's safety shed light on these now rampant practices. But if this is already common knowledge, why doesn't the government do anything about it? You might as well ask why Juan Tamad waits for the guava to fall from the tree. The lack of political will is the answer.

Starting the fire

Indeed, if we are to combat the corruption that exists and is manifested in the fire disasters that commonly occur, the government has to play its part. It has to set new standards to build upon and improve the obsolete provisions of the laws and codes (i.e., the National Building Code and the Fire Code). It has to prioritize the issues and concerns that involve the safety and welfare of the public over business or personal interests. It should employ competent, qualified and, above all, conscientious workers to take on the task of ensuring the security and protection of the public. This includes the regulation of the work quality, products, equipment and applications of traders and manufacturers to guarantee not only the best but also the safest service to the public. Let legislators value their constituents as our mothers value us, ensuring our safety and protection at all costs in the laws they enact. Let the enforcers do the job they are paid to do.

But even genuine political will cannot be effective without the help of all the sectors of society. Initiatives of non-government organizations, foundations and even the business sector should be tapped and maximized. Their ability and capacity to implement the rules and regulations down to the grassroots level is invaluable. Institutions like the school, the church and the family should also be involved. Children, especially at their tender age, should be educated on the responsibility of protecting the community by recognizing the value of safety. And lastly, let everyone do their part in preventing another fire from killing innocent victims by keeping steadfast vigilance. A seemingly simple act like reporting observed violations in buildings to the proper authorities could mean the salvation of hundreds of lives.

In the final analysis, all of us have some blood on our hands. For as long as we condone this neglect of public safety and allow this culture of corruption to persist, we not only rob the deaths of those innocent souls lost in the fire; we also become accomplices to the crime. For a change, let us be a nation that remembers and learns from its past mistakes. Let us not wait for another fire disaster to rouse us from our indifference.

Talking points

FIRST, a point about language, and then a point about the power of personal witness.

For the language purists who might object to the unrestricted use of the word "tragedy," the articles of Messrs. Estrada and Santos should present a useful case study.

It is worth noting that, in the classical sense, "tragedy" is the fate that descends upon a flawed hero. The action is one of inevitability; that is, a hero's downfall is written in the stars. In the news sense, however, "tragedy" is often misused as a synonym for misfortune. Without a doubt, even the loss of one life is someone else's personal tragedy. But in an objective sense, "tragedy" must be used sparingly. The needless deaths in the Ozone conflagration (160 victims) or in the Manor Hotel fire (74) fully qualify those two events as tragedies. But it isn't only the scale of suffering that justifies the use of the word; it is also the needlessness of the suffering. In the true news sense, therefore, the meaning of "tragedy" becomes the complete opposite of the classical view. A fire such as the one that consumed Ozone disco is tragic precisely because it did not have to be. It wasn't inevitable.

It is fair to say that this needlessness is also the view of both Estrada and Santos. Estrada's experience as a firefighter allows him to zero in on the two root causes of "the string of tragedies." The "toothless law" that regulates fire safety measures in the Philippin[illegible] t be br[illegible]nt kicking and [illegible] 21st century. An[illegible]pped Fire Service" must be given the weapons it needs to fight the war on fire.

Like Estrada, Santos bewails the shortness of memory that allows "the same problems and woes that haunted us then" to scare the wits off us now. But speaking as a private citizen, he also sees that the responsibility—indeed, the culpability—does not rest on government alone: "all of us have some blood on our hands."

Coming from anyone else, this statement might start a little fire. But coming as it does from an Ozone victim, it acquires a power not fully explainable by logic alone. The power of the witness (a word rooted in the Greek for "martyr") lies in what in a moment of inspiration Robert F. Kennedy once called "the power to suffer." There is no arguing with it.–*J. Nery*

The WORLD

LUVERNE B. GUECO, EDITOR

ISRAEL GO TO HELL

HUNDREDS of Indonesian Muslim girls stage a rally on the streets of Jakarta Aug. 24 carrying a banner saying, "Israel Go To Hell." The girls were protesting an Israeli attack on a Palestinian-controlled area of the West Bank on Friday. REUTERS

Israel warns it will no longer show 'restraint'

JERUSALEM—Israel said Friday its army's storming of the flashpoint West Bank city of Hebron was a clear signal it would no longer show "restraint" toward the Palestinians and their 11-month uprising.

US President George W. Bush, meanwhile, rachetted up the pressure on the Palestinian leader, Yasser Arafat, claiming his inability—or unwillingness—to halt terrorism was the main reason the peace process was deadlocked.

Israeli tanks raided mainly Palestinian-controlled Hebron early Friday over the serious wounding of an 11-year-old Israeli boy and his soldier brother by snipers firing from the Abu Sneina area surrounding a Jewish settlement.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben Eliezer later told public television that his government was unwilling to accept any more such attacks.

"This operation signifies that Israel is no longer inclined to show restraint but continues to say to the Palestinians day and night: come back to the negotiating table," the minister said.

"The Palestinians must know that we will not sit with our arms crossed while they shoot at us or send kamikaze" suicide bombers, he said.

Around 400 Jewish settlers live under heavy army protection in the center of Hebron, surrounded by a Palestinian population of some 120,000.

Another senior Israeli official commenting on Hebron characterized the overall situation as a "war" that Israel was intent on winning.

"This operation is a clear message to the Palestinians, which means we are determined to win this war of attrition which was imposed upon us," said Dore Gold, a senior advisor to hardline Prime Minister Ariel Sharon.

During the Hebron operation which lasted several hours the Israeli army also dynamited two houses which had been frequently used by Palestinian snipers targeting the settlement, and wounded 12 people in the area.

It was one of its deepest incursions into Palestinian territory since the uprising, or intifada, erupted in late September. The fighting has left 734 dead, including 566 Palestinians and 146 Israelis.

Questioned by reporters at his Texas ranch on the incursion, Bush appeared sympathetic to the Israeli response, and charged that Arafat had not done enough to halt terrorism to warrant any resumption of the stalled peace talks.

"If Mr. Arafat is interested in having a dialogue... then I strongly urge him to urge the Palestinian terrorists to stop the suicide bombings, stop the incursions, stop the threats," Bush said. *AFP*

3 Israelis, 2 Palestinians killed in Gaza shootout

KHAN YUNIS, Gaza Strip—Three Israeli soldiers and two Palestinian gunmen were killed Saturday when the Palestinians launched an attack on an Israeli military outpost in the southern Gaza Strip, officials from both sides said.

Seven Israeli soldiers were hurt in the fierce gunbattle at the Marganit military base, the Israeli military said.

The Palestinian militants opened fire on the base with automatic rifles and hand grenades, the army said. The dead Israelis included a major, the army statement said.

Both the Palestinian attackers were killed, the army added.

The radical Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility for the attack, saying it was in response to Israeli attacks on Palestinians. *AP*

Microsoft readies Windows XP as its antitrust case starts anew

WASHINGTON—The Microsoft antitrust case was returned Friday to a lower court where a new judge will begin a new phase in the trial, including review penalties against the software giant.

US District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly was selected in a random selection by the court to take over the antitrust case.

A court spokesperson said no hearings had been set in the case immediately following the selection of Kollar-Kotelly, appointed by president Bill Clinton in 1997.

The US Court of Appeals said on its website that the case was sent back to the US District Court in Washington, where the original ruling was issued last year.

The appeals court on June 28 upheld a finding Microsoft acted as an illegal monopoly, but said the breakup of the company ordered by Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson was not justified by the evidence.

The appeals judges said the case should be assigned to another district court judge for review, ruling Jackson violated judicial ethics in discussing the case with journalists.

Under the appellate ruling, Kollar-Kotelly must review whether it was illegal for Microsoft to integrate its Internet Explorer browser with Windows 95 and 98 and will reconsider a remedy for the company's monopoly abuses confirmed in the judgment.

Last week, the appeals court rejected Microsoft's request to delay sending case back to the lower court while an appeal is pending before the US Supreme Court.

The legal developments came as Microsoft said it is shipping its new Windows XP operating system to computer manufacturers, which are to begin selling PCs with the new system on Oct. 25.

The new judge could call hearings soon in the case and hear motions from the Justice Department and states involved in the case, although few analysts expected an effort to halt the release of Windows XP.

The new system is the latest version of Windows, which is used on some 90 percent of personal computers around the world.

It will incorporate features of Windows 2000, the operating system used in many corporate PCs, and is expected to be more stable than earlier consumer versions, including Windows 95, Windows 98 and Windows Me.

The new operating system will cost consumers slightly more than previous versions of Windows.

According to Microsoft, the home version upgrade will cost $99, while the full version will cost $199.

The professional edition, aimed at business users, will cost $199 for the upgrade and 299 for the full version. *AFP*

Timor's Gusmao to run for president

GUSMAO

DILI, East Timor—East Timorese freedom fighter Jose Alexandre "Xanana" Gusmao ended months of speculation on Saturday by announcing that he would run for the presidency of the new nation when it gains full independence next year.

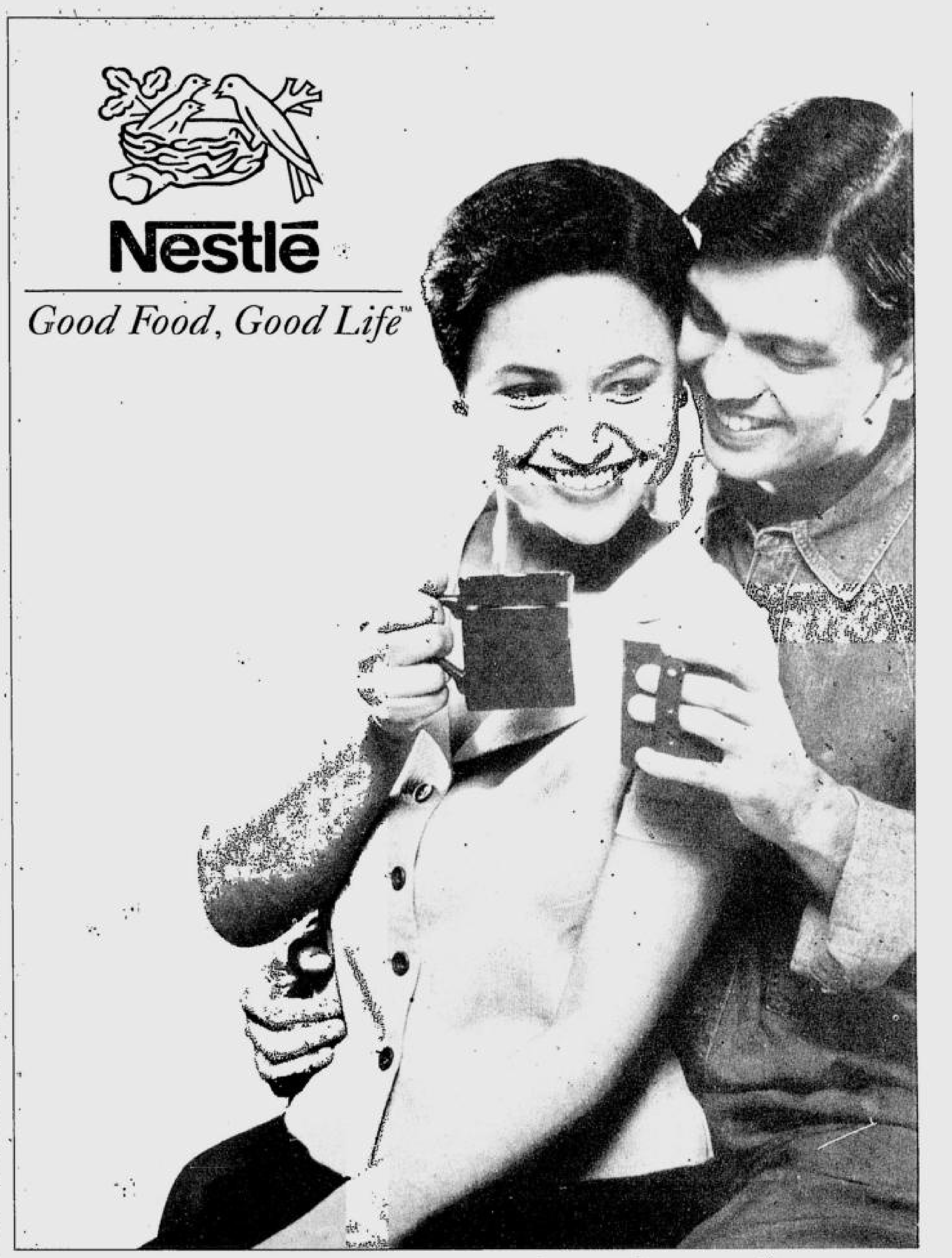
"I will accept the candidacy for president," Gusmao told reporters in the capital, Dili.

Gusmao, a former guerrilla commander, is wildly popular in the homeland that he helped free from 24 years of repressive Indonesian occupation.

He was captured by Indonesian forces in 1992 and remained a political prisoner in Jakarta until after East Timor's people voted overwhelmingly to break free from Indonesian rule in a UN ballot on Aug. 30, 1999.

Until now, he has often said that he had no ambition to become its first head of state. He had claimed that he would rather be a farmer or a photographer and that former rebel fighters usually do not make good presidents.

However, at Saturday's news conference he said other Timorese political leaders had pressured him into running for the top job. *AP*



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‘Cinderella’ mom marries Norway prince

OSLO—A young single mother is walking into the Oslo Cathedral as Mette-Marit Tjessem Hoiby but will walk out an hour later Saturday as Norway's crown princess and future queen.

Hoiby, a typical 28-year-old Norwegian, marries Crown Prince Haakon in a Lutheran ceremony that begins at 5 p.m. (11 p.m. in Manila) before about 800 guests, including much of the royalty of Europe.

"Sometimes I wake up and wonder where I am," Hoiby said this week about her transition from student and part-time waitress to one of the most photographed women in Norway.

The first royal wedding since Haakon's parents, King Harald V and Queen Sonja, married in 1968 expected to draw as many as 120,000 people—25 percent of Oslo's population—along the wedding procession route from the palace to the cathedral.

Haakon's best man will be Crown Prince Frederik of Denmark, while Hoiby's maid of honor will be her friend Linda Taanevik.

Norwegians seem to be warming to Hoiby as their future queen, after months of doubt as the news media speculated about her past.

Hoiby seemed to disarm the press and impress her future subjects when—fighting back tears at a news conference—she acknowledged her wild youth and apologized this week.

She admitted moving in circles where narcotics were common in her younger days, and although she did not say whether she had used illegal drugs, she made it clear that she does not approve of drug abuse.

Haakon's decision to live with and then marry Hoiby stirred heated debate in this liberal nation of 4.5 million. Cohabitation and having children out of wedlock are commonplace, but Norwegians generally have strongly negative views about narcotics.

The father of Hoiby's 4-year-old son Marius has been convicted of drug possession.

But Haakon this week said he could not given up the love he found with Hoiby, although he never faced a choice between her and the throne. "I think that we together are stronger than I am alone," he said.

The Norwegian capital has been preparing for days for what is expected to be one of its biggest-ever street parties. About 1,000 police will be out, partly because of worries that crowding could be so extreme that people could get hurt.

But the unusually large police presence is also to guard the many European royals attending, including the British princes Charles and Edward, Spanish Crown Prince Felipe and the monarchs of Sweden, Denmark, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Hoiby was born and raised in the southern town of Kristiansand.

She met Haakon in 1996, but they did not become a couple until 1999, after they met again at an outdoor rock concert.

Although groomed from birth to become king, Haakon went to public schools in Norway and the University of California-Berkeley, served in the Norwegian navy, and underwent diplomatic training.

Haakon' father King Harald held out for nine years before winning permission from his own father, King Olav V, to marry Sonja Haraldsen, now Queen Sonja.

Norway' modern monarchy is relatively new, created with independence from Sweden in 1905, and Olav wanted his son to marry a princess to help establish the royal house.

Harald said he quickly accepted his son' choice of a spouse, even though he knew it would stir debate, especially among older Norwegians.

Prime Minister Jens Stoltenberg has called the wedding a triumph for tolerance and respect for single mothers.

Any debate is likely to be more than drowned out by celebrations in Oslo on Saturday.

The streets leading from the palace to the church will close early, and are expected to fill up long before the wedding procession begins. The route will be lined by Norwegian flags, flowers and the King's Guard.

The royal couple is to ride to church in an open Cadillac that belonged to King Olav V. After the hour-long ceremony, which will be televised live in Norway, the newlyweds will return to the palace to greet the crowd from a balcony.

During the evening there will be two separate wedding banquets—e to space restrictions—allowed by fireworks.

The couple's honeymoon plans are secret. *AP*

NORWAY'S Crown Prince Haakon and his fiancéé, Mette-Marit Tjessem Hoiby, arrive at the Akershus Castle in Oslo, Norway, Aug. 24 for a reception to mark their upcoming wedding. AP

Vatican blames World War II study row on Jews again

VATICAN CITY—The Vatican on Friday called for mutual respect and trust between Catholic and Jewish scholars looking into the Holy See's behavior during World War II but again blamed the Jewish side for stalling the study.

The project collapsed into acrimony in July when scholars demanded access to more Vatican documents to shed light on one of the thorniest issues between the faiths—whether Pope Pius XII did enough to help Jews during the Holocaust.

"This sort of scientific research can only be carried out on a basis of politeness, respect and mutual trust," Cardinal Walter Kasper, head of the Vatican's Commission for Religious Relations with Judaism, said in a statement.

"This indispensable condition is totally lacking because of the row which broke out when work stopped and because of the insulting suspicions which followed," he added, laying the blame firmly at the Jewish team's door.

"Tactless comments... from the Jewish side fed a sense of mistrust which has made it almost impossible to continue this bilateral research," Kasper wrote.

One of the Jewish scholars involved has accused people in charge of Vatican archives of not wanting to take "essential steps toward full disclosure and unfettered research"—an attack one cardinal said smacked of a "defamatory campaign" against the Catholic Church.

"The Catholic members of the (research) group publicly distanced themselves from such an argumentative position," Kasper said, acknowledging that some senior members of the Jewish community had shown a desire to continue discussions.

The six-scholar study group—three Catholics and three Jews—was set up in 1999 to review 11 volumes of published material about how the Vatican acted during World War II.

The wartime role of Pius XII, who did not speak out strongly against the Holocaust although the Vatican had extensive information about it, has been one of the trickiest problems in post-war Catholic-Jewish relations.

The Vatican has defended Pius, who led the Catholic Church from 1939 to 1958, saying he worked behind the scenes to save Jews and avoided provoking further Nazi horrors.

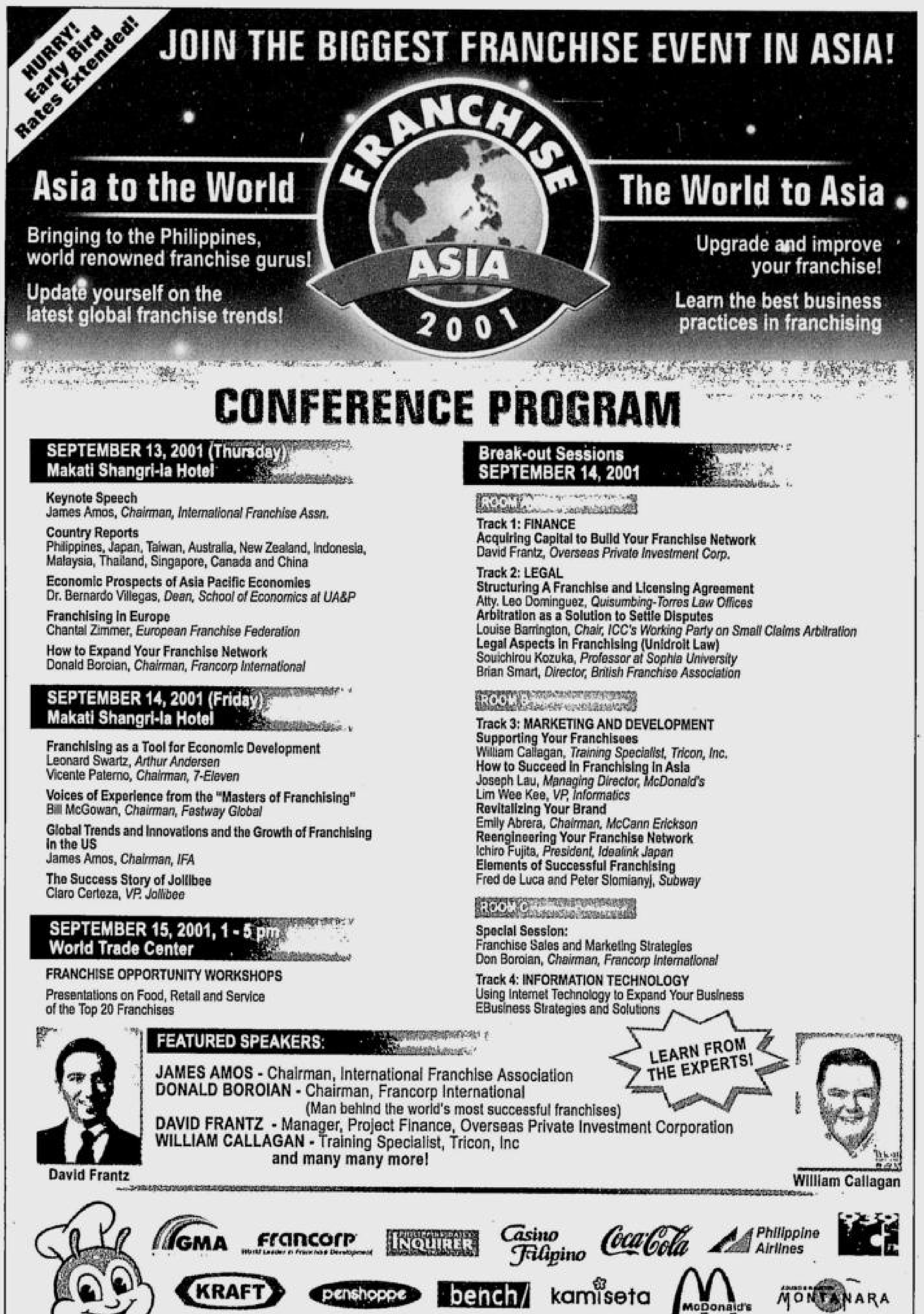
Following widespread Jewish discontent with a Vatican document defending the Pontiff, the two sides set up the study.

But when the panel issued its preliminary report last October, it said the Vatican's version of events was incomplete and asked for full access to the Holy See's wartime archives.

Kasper said he recognized there was not enough material to lay questions to rest but said the group had never been expected to have access to archived documents dating from after 1922.

He tried to cool things down slightly by promising to open up other files as soon as possible.

"In respect for the truth, the Holy See is ready to allow access to the Vatican archives once the sources in question have finished being reordered and catalogued," he said. *Réuters*



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SEPTEMBER 13, 2001 (Thursday)
Makati Shangri-la Hotel

Keynote Speech
James Amos, *Chairman, International Franchise Assn.*

Country Reports
Philippines, Japan, Taiwan, Australia, New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Canada and China

Economic Prospects of Asia Pacific Economies
Dr. Bernardo Villegas, *Dean, School of Economics at UA&P*

Franchising in Europe
Chantal Zimmer, *European Franchise Federation*

How to Expand Your Franchise Network
Donald Boroian, *Chairman, Francorp International*

SEPTEMBER 14, 2001 (Friday)
Makati Shangri-la Hotel

Franchising as a Tool for Economic Development
Leonard Swartz, *Arthur Andersen*
Vicente Paterno, *Chairman, 7-Eleven*

Voices of Experience from the "Masters of Franchising"
Bill McGowan, *Chairman, Fastway Global*

Global Trends and Innovations and the Growth of Franchising in the US
James Amos, *Chairman, IFA*

The Success Story of Jollibee
Claro Certeza, *VP, Jollibee*

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SEPTEMBER 14, 2001

ROOM

Track 1: FINANCE
Acquiring Capital to Build Your Franchise Network
David Frantz, *Overseas Private Investment Corp.*

Track 2: LEGAL
Structuring A Franchise and Licensing Agreement
Atty. Leo Dominguez, *Quisumbing-Torres Law Offices*
Arbitration as a Solution to Settle Disputes
Louise Barrington, *Chair, ICC's Working Party on Small Claims Arbitration*
Legal Aspects in Franchising (Unidroit Law)
Souichirou Kozuka, *Professor at Sophia University*
Brian Smart, *Director, British Franchise Association*

ROOM B

Track 3: MARKETING AND DEVELOPMENT
Supporting Your Franchisees
William Callagan, *Training Specialist, Tricon, Inc.*
How to Succeed in Franchising in Asia
Joseph Lau, *Managing Director, McDonald's*
Lim Wee Kee, *VP, Informatics*
Revitalizing Your Brand
Emily Abrera, *Chairman, McCann Erickson*
Reengineering Your Franchise Network
Ichiro Fujita, *President, Idealink Japan*
Elements of Successful Franchising
Fred de Luca and Peter Slomianyj, *Subway*

ROOM C

Special Session:
Franchise Sales and Marketing Strategies
Don Boroian, *Chairman, Francorp International*

Track 4: INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Using Internet Technology to Expand Your Business
EBusiness Strategies and Solutions

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Bush names cyber-war expert to head Joint Chiefs of Staff

CRAWFORD, Texas—In a move reflecting a shift in US military strategy towards missile defense, President George W. Bush on Friday nominated an expert on space military issues and cyber warfare to head the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

MYERS

Bush described Air Force General Richard Myers as "the right man to preserve the best traditions of our armed forces, while challenging them to innovate to meet the threats of the future."

Myers, 59, was head of the US Space Command, based in the western state of Colorado, from 1998 to 2000. He is currently vice chair of the Joint Chiefs under Army General Henry Shelton, whom he will succeed starting Sept. 30 if his nomination is confirmed by the US Senate.

The chair is the highest-ranking US military officer and chief military adviser to the president, but has no direct command of US forces.

As US Space Command chief, Myers' responsibilities included controlling scores of satellites that provide ballistic missile warning, communications, weather and navigation, as well as defending US computer networks. The Space Command includes the Army, Navy and Air Force space commands, and the North American Aerospace Defense Command operations center in Cheyenne Mountain, Colorado.

Myers' nomination comes as Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld is carrying out a wide-ranging review of the US military, with a new strong emphasis on defending the United States and its allies from a possible long-range missile attack.

"I'm ready to roll up my sleeves and eager to get back to work to building the kind of military that President Bush envisions—one that is poised to meet current obligations and emerging threats," Myers said.

Bush recognized his ambitious goals to transform the US military required balancing "two sometimes conflicting priorities: the need to train and maintain" forces to meet US global security responsibilities, with the "need to research, develop, plan and deploy new systems and strategies that will allow us to meet our responsibilities in a much different world in years to come."

Bush has proposed boosting the US military budget to $329 billion for fiscal year 2002—a $32.4-billion increase over the previous year.

The proposal, which still needs full congressional approval, includes $8.3 billion for missile defense programs, a 57 percent increase over current missile defense expenditures. *AFP*

Stem cells used to mend heart

DUSSELDORF, Germany—Cardiologists at Dusseldorf University claimed Friday to have successfully used genetic material taken from a patient to make his own damaged heart rebuild itself.

Bodo Eckerhard Strauer, one of the German doctors who operated on the 46-year-old man, said the team took so-called stem cells from his bone marrow, and used them to regenerate a damaged part of his heart's left ventricle.

The patient had suffered a serious heart attack in March, and after 10 weeks after the treatment there were clear signs of improvement, Dr. Strauer said.

He said the only possible explanation for the improvement was that the stem cells—which contain all the genetic information required to reproduce a given part of a person's body—had been able to transform themselves into new heart muscle.

However more tests would be required before the result could be fully confirmed, he said, adding that the treatment was the first of its kind to be successful. *AFP*

WORLDBRIEFS

Ex-USAF sergeant charged with spying

ALEXANDRIA, Virginia—A retired, decorated Air Force sergeant who worked as a civilian at the super-secret US spy satellite agency is in custody after his arrest on espionage charges. A source told The Associated Press he spied for Libya. Brian P. Regan, 38, appeared in federal court Friday, a day after federal authorities took him into custody as he was passing through a security checkpoint to take a Lufthansa flight to Zurich, Switzerland, via Frankfurt, Germany. Regan is charged with conspiracy to commit espionage. Prosecutors would not name the country or countries that received US secrets. *AP*

Firestone lawsuit settled for $7.5M

MCALLEN, Texas—With a jury still locked in deliberations, a Texas family who sued Bridgestone/Firestone for devastating injuries suffered when their Ford Explorer flipped over after a tire blowout settled the case for a reported $7.5 million Friday. The closely watched lawsuit had been viewed as a legal pacesetter because it was the first of 400 cases against the beleaguered tiremaker to go to trial and a jury, but the negotiated end gave little insight into how Firestone may fare in the massive legal battle ahead. Firestone tires have been linked to 203 deaths and 700 injuries by the US National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. In most of the accidents, Firestone tires were installed on Ford Motor Company's <F.N> popular Explorer sport utility vehicles, which has sparked an acrimonious dispute between the long-time corporate partners who now blame each other for the crashes. *Reuters*

Mormon draws 5 years for polygamy

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah—An avowed Mormon polygamist with five wives and 30 children will spend up to five years in state prison and pay $78,000 in restitution for welfare assistance his family fraudulently collected. Tom Green, 53, a member of a fundamentalist Mormon sect that accepts polygamy, was convicted in May on four counts of bigamy and one count of criminal nonsupport. He could have received up to five years in prison and a $25,000-fine on each count, said court executive Paul Sheffield. "We are just all very sad that we live in a society where a man can be sent to prison for being a father," Green said. *AFP*

DNA evidence frees US death row inmate

WASHINGTON—A death row inmate held in a prison in the US state of Idaho for almost 18 years has been set free because of new DNA evidence proving his innocence, a prison official said Friday. Charles Fain, who was convicted of raping and murdering a 9-year-old girl from the town of Nampa, was released two hours after the evidence became available. *AFP*

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Across the NATION

TONY BERGONIA, Assistant Editor

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: The Western sections of Luzon and Visayas will experience occassional rains. The rest of the country will be cloudy with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

Metro Manila	Monsoon rains	HI 28° Lo 24°
Baguio	Monsoon rains	HI 22° Lo 15°
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with rains	HI 31° Lo 21°
Laoag	Monsoon rains	HI 32° Lo 24°
Clark Zone	Monsoon rains	HI 28° Lo 24°
Tagaytay	Monsoon rains	HI 26° Lo 23°
Legazpi	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 25°
Calapan	Monsoon rains	HI 30° Lo 23°
Bacolod	Monsoon rains	HI 30° Lo 24°
Roxas	Monsoon rains	HI 30° Lo 25°
Cebu	Cloudy with rains	HI 29° Lo 25°
Tacloban	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 26°
Gen. Santos	Cloudy with rains	HI 32° Lo 24°
Zamboanga	Cloudy with rains	HI 31° Lo 25°
Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 23°
Davao	Cloudy with rains	HI 30° Lo 26°

Compiled by: Armin P. Adina, PDI Research/08/25/01

ROUNDUP

Robbery suspect falls

PANDI, Bulacan—After 11 years of hiding, a suspected leader of a robbery-holdup gang was arrested in his hideout in Barangay Malibong here on Saturday. Police identified the suspect as Oscar Cristobal, 41, the fifth most wanted criminal in Bulacan. In 1990, Cristobal was sentenced to 17 years in prison for robbing a couple in Sta. Maria town.

Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Fugitive cop arrested

STO. DOMINGO, Albay—A member of the Sorsogon police mobile group who went into hiding after allegedly killing a civilian was arrested Thursday. Police brought PO3 Dante Banta, 38, to the town police station following a complaint by a tricycle driver whom he waylaid while drunk in Barangay San Andres. Police said a warrant of arrest for murder had been issued against Banta by Judge Honesto Villamor of the Sorsogon Regional Trial Court Branch 52. Chief Insp. Rolando Esguerra, town police chief, said a .38 cal. revolver and an expired mission order had been recovered from Banta.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Volcanologist survives attack

STO. DOMINGO, Albay—A volcanologist of the Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology escaped an ambush attempt by two unidentified gunmen in Barangay San Isidro here. Perfecto Peralta suffered a bullet wound in the neck and was brought to the Bicol Regional Training and Teaching Hospital in Legazpi City. Police said Peralta, who was riding on his motorcycle, was shot at close range by the attackers who fled toward the foot of Mt. Mayon.

Job Belen, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Man kills drunk son

LEGAZPI CITY—Graciano Isaac, 72, of Barangay Santiago, Iriga City, only wanted some respect from his 42-year-old son Juanito. Instead, Juanito mauled him, prompting the old man to kill his son, police said. Juanito was reportedly drunk on Tuesday when he entered their house and, for no apparent reason, started to attack his father. Graciano got a knife and stabbed his son several times. The man surrendered to the police and is now detained at the Iriga City jail.

Rey Nasol, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Jail guard in trouble

DUMAGUETE CITY—A provincial jail guard is in hot water after a prisoner escaped on July 11 while being treated at the Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital. Provincial legal officer Erwin Vergara recommended to Gov. George Arnaiz the suspension or dismissal of PG1 Laurencio Sabanal for gross neglect of duty. The prisoner, Jhone Mendez, a native of Dipolog City and is facing theft charges, escaped after seeking permission to use the toilet of the hospital.

Alex V. Pal, PDI Visayas Bureau

Cleanest, greenest

LA TRINIDAD, Benguet—For being the cleanest and greenest municipality (first-to-third class category) in the Cordillera, this capital town has been elevated to the Hall of Fame. Apayao won over Benguet and Mt. Province as the cleanest and greenest province in the region. Luna town in Apayao was declared the cleanest and greenest among towns in the fourth-to-sixth class category. The Ziwanan River in Calanasan, Apayao, won over the Labbay River in Bakun, Benguet.

Nathan Alcantara, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

Baliuag mayor charged

BALIUAG, Bulacan—Mayor Rolando Salvador was charged with gross misconduct and abuse of authority before the office of the Ombudsman for allegedly ordering his security aide to attack a councilor here two weeks ago. The mayor's aide, Joel Gamboa, was also charged with direct assault and grave misconduct before the municipal trial court here. Councilor Enrique de la Cruz suffered cuts and wounds in the face from the attack. He said the mayor was irked when he asked a local official to explain the dismissal of more than 200 municipal employees and the realigned project involving a bridge construction without approval from the town council.

Carmela Reyes, PDI Central Luzon Desk

Patrol boat for coastal town

MATI, Davao Oriental—Director Malcolm Sarmiento of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources has turned over a fully equipped patrol boat to officials of Governor Generoso town for its Bantay-Dagat program. Davao Oriental Rep. Joel Mayo Almario said the 24-foot fiberglass boat would be used to combat sea pirates and illegal fishers in Governor Generoso and the neighboring towns of San Isidro, Lupon, Banaybanay and Mati.

Ferdinand O. Zuasola, PDI Mindanao Bureau

C. Luzon leads regions with most dengue cases

BY JUN MALIG
AND BERT BASA
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Dengue cases in Central Luzon rose from 1,562 on July 27 to 3,092 on Aug. 23 this year, making the region the most dengue-infected area in the country.

The number of fatalities also rose from nine to 14 within a month, according to the regional office of the Department of Health here. The dead were mostly children.

Dr. Ethelyn Nieto, DOH director for Central Luzon, said during a dialogue with municipal health officers of Pampanga on Thursday that the region has overtaken Western Visayas and Metro Manila with the most number of dengue cases.

Despite the high number of cases, she said, Central Luzon ranked among the regions with the lowest fatality rate.

"We have only 14 fatalities and (this) indicates that our health officials know how to eradicate dengue," she said.

Of the six Central Luzon provinces, Nueva Ecija ranked first with 1,241 cases, while Pampanga had 316 cases.

Nieto also noted that most of those infected with the dengue strain in Pampanga lived in areas where there are no floods. She said only a few dengue cases were reported in the flooded areas of the province.

Mabalacat town had 41 cases, while the flooded towns of Minalin and Sto. Tomas had four dengue cases each.

Nieto said most of the dengue cases monitored in Mabalacat were found at the Madapdap resettlement center.

The dialogue between the DOH officials and municipal health officers was arranged by Board Member Lilia Pineda, chair of the provincial board's committee on health.

Dr. Ric Tayag, health assistant regional director, earlier urged residents of Central Luzon to clean up their surroundings by removing things that can serve as breeding grounds for the *Aedes aegypti,* the mosquito that spreads the dengue virus.

These include flower vases, old tires, empty bottles and cans, he said.

Tayag said the people, especially children, must be extra careful of the "daytime mosquitoes," saying the dengue-carrying insect bites from 10 a.m. until late afternoon.

Wife of kidnap victim airs appeal

COTABATO CITY—The wife of a Chinese-Filipino kidnap victim yesterday appealed to his captors to free him because the family could not afford to pay any ransom.

"Please free him, I cannot pay you. Our children have been looking for their father," Vina Briones-Lim said.

She said her husband, Edwin "Sonny" Lim, was a plain Chinese interpreter and had no permanent job.

"We are not moneyed as you thought us to be," she told the kidnappers over radio dxMS here.

Vina said she also could not afford to pay any ransom as she is just an ordinary government employee in Davao City.

Lim, along with Filipino businessman Brahim Maliam and Chinese nationals Zhang Zhongyi, Xue Xing and Wang Zungli, were kidnapped on Aug. 12 in Datu Paglas, Maguindanao.

They were involved in a payoff for the release of Zhang Zongquiang, an executive of China Import-Export Technologies (Citec), who was seized on June 20.

The kidnappers decided to take the negotiators after learning that they were bringing in only P5 million of the P8 million ransom they had earlier agreed on.

Maliam, who can speak Maguindanaoan, was later freed to relay the new ransom demand of $10 million for the release of all six captives.

In an encounter between the kidnappers and government troops on Aug. 19 in Sultan Kudarat province, Xue and Zhang Zongguiang were killed while Wang escaped unhurt. Zhang Zhongyi and Lim remain in the hands of their captors.

The military has identified the kidnappers as belonging to the Pentagon group headed by Tahir Alonto. The Moro Islamic Liberation Front has disowned Tahir as one of its members.

Abu Hamsa, spokesperson of the kidnappers, has threatened to harm the remaining hostages unless the military calls off its operation.

At least 20 kidnappers have been slain since Aug. 19 in clashes with government forces.

"Where can I get the (ransom) money?" Vina asked.

She said the kidnappers could have mistaken her husband for a Davao-based rich businessman who is his namesake. "We are poor," she said.

Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Sex diseases afflict GenSan street kids

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—The City Social Welfare and Development Office has expressed concern over the increasing number of street children afflicted with sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

Rebecca Magante, CSWDO chief, cited a latest study of the Shed Foundation Inc. showing that more than 200 street children in the city have been infected with gonorrhea.

Based on the 1998 data of the CSWDO, 751 street children, more popularly known as "Batang Tunog (Children of the Dew)," roamed around the city.

"Some of them who sought assistance from the Shed Foundation are under medication," Domingo Non of the foundation said.

Non claimed that the minors engaged in free sex, which, he said, explained why the rate of STD cases among them is quite high.

"Most of them are also drug users and reside in abandoned buildings. After the pot sessions, they have sex among themselves, thus allowing the disease to spread," Non said.

The Shed Foundation also found that most of the minors with STDs were aged 12 to 18 years old.

In its study, it noted that almost half of the city's more than 3,000 commercial sex workers were minors.

Worse, Non said, the minors belonged to a lower age bracket compared to those in previous years.

The city government has passed a resolution allowing the CSWDO to use the old city jail building as drop-in center for street urchins. ***Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau***

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Sign-up for the centers above will begin on Monday, 27 of August, at 1:00 pm.
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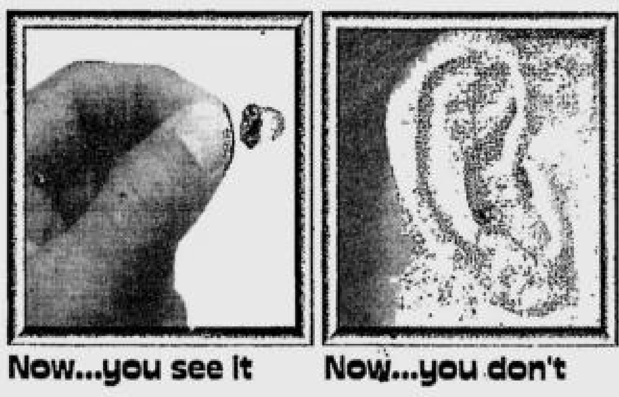

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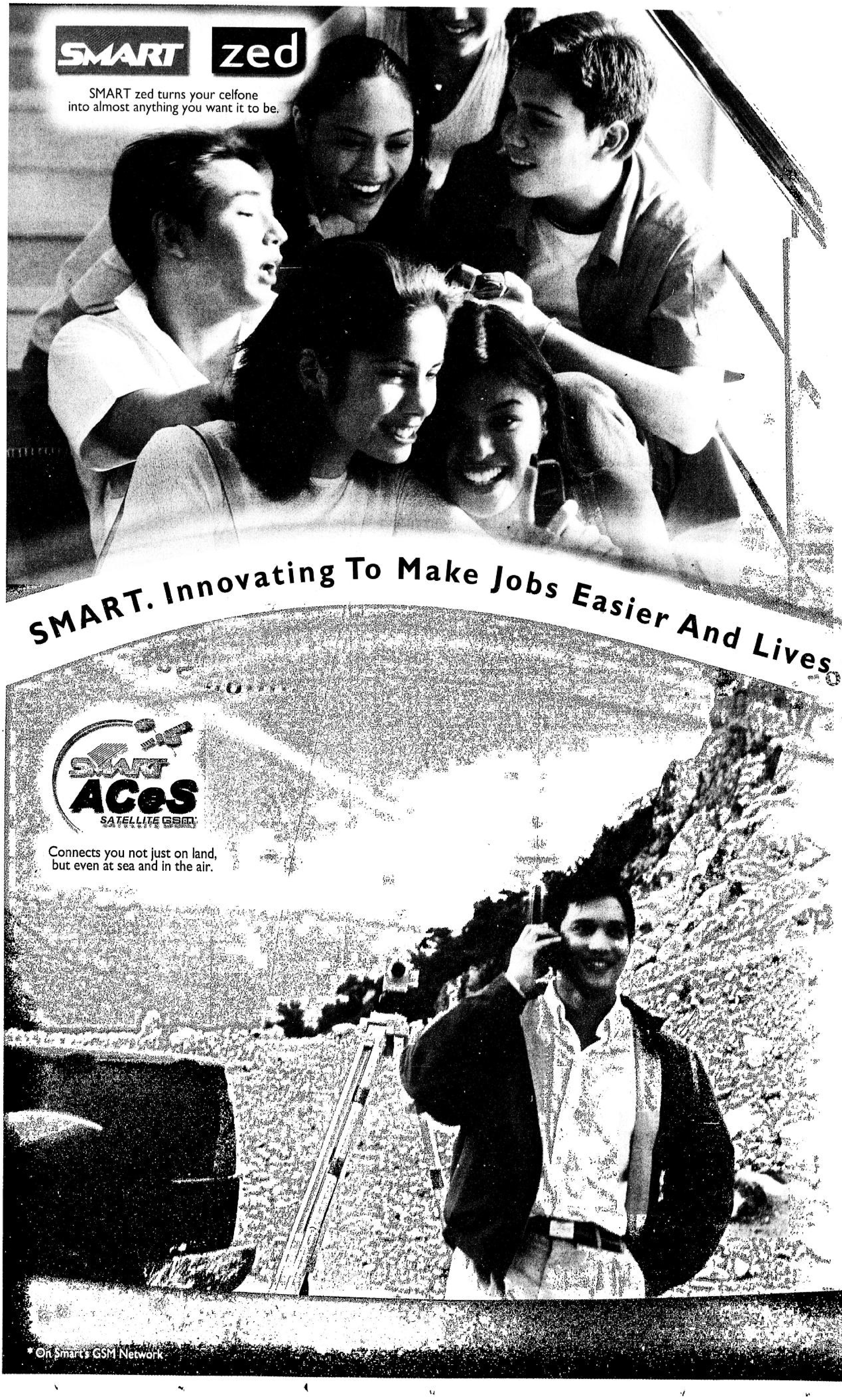

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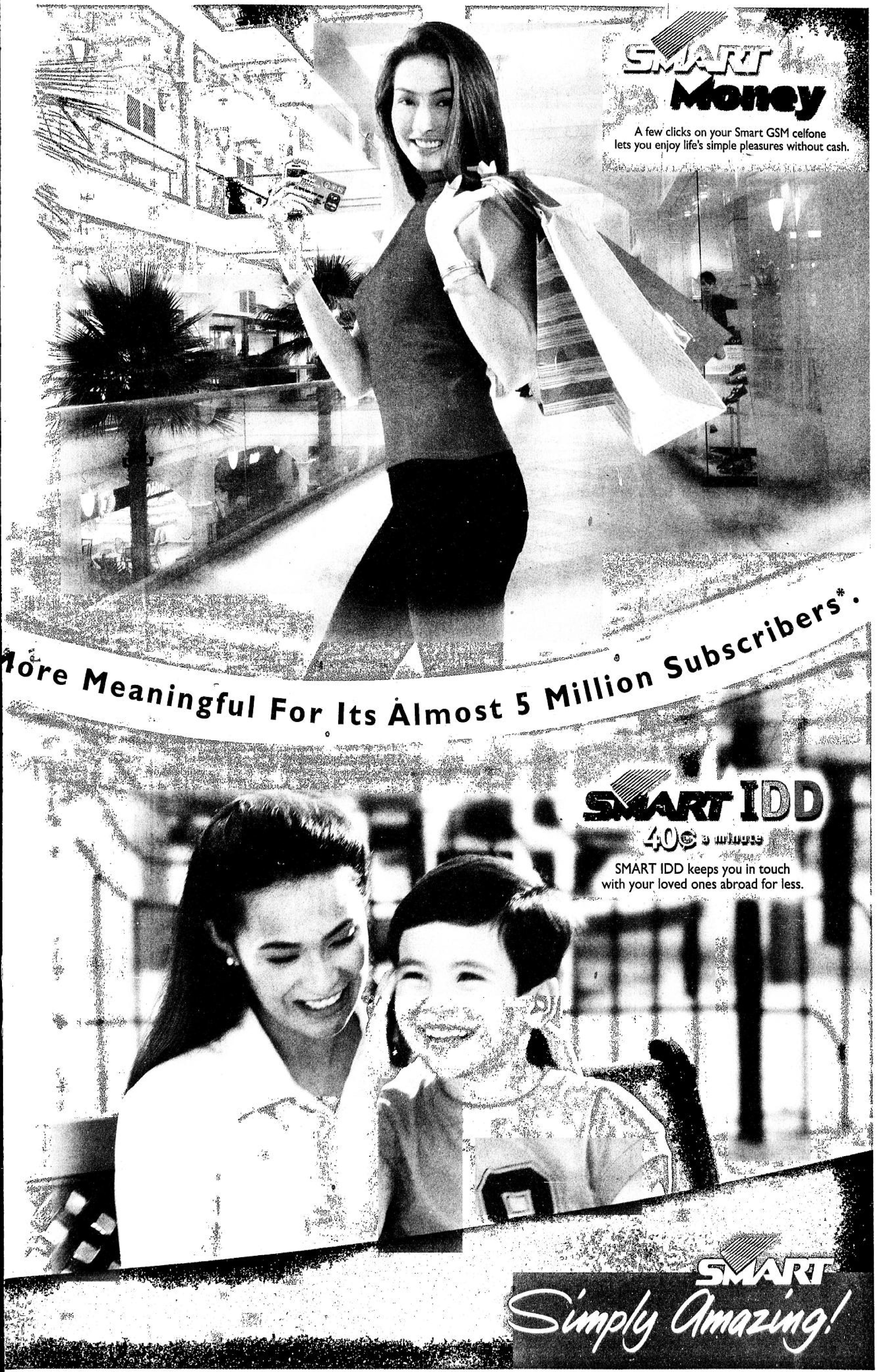

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NAMELESS RESCUERS

4 Albay fishers survive 43-day ordeal at sea

BY JOB BELEN
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

TABACO CITY—A former police officer and three other fishermen survived 43 days of hunger as their boat drifted aimlessly at sea.

Thanks to the training of the ex-SPO1 Nathaniel Dorado, the missing victims came home alive, although very weak.

Dorado, Roberto Begino, Alex Bonto and Miguel Burce had been missing since July 11 in the seawaters off Catanduanes after their boat, the MV John Oliver, developed engine trouble.

A disgruntled policeman who resigned from the service and chose to become a fisherman, Dorado said that most of the time during their ordeal, they had nothing to eat.

Dorado said they seldom caught fish, which they shared, and their boat moved with the wind.

For 13 days, they caught nothing at all, forcing them to eat their clothes, he said. They drank little water, he said.

"We almost fainted and became hopeless as hunger struck us," Dorado said in Bicol.

Thirty-four vessels passed near them but nobody tried to help them, he said.

"I believed that only one of the vessels was from the Philippines because I was able to read its name, the MV Mitra Enterprises. The rest had names written in foreign languages," Dorado said.

On Monday, Aug. 20, seven Chinese-looking fishermen on board a vessel rescued them after meeting them four times at sea.

Dorado said that since they both did not understand each other's language, they used sign language. The crew brought them somewhere in Baras town, Catanduanes.

"The travel took 26 hours from where they rescued us," Dorado said.

The rescuers left them when they met Filipino fishermen off Barangay Danao in Baras. Dorado said he interpreted the foreigners' gestures to mean that they could not legally enter the municipal waters.

"The Lord has listened to my prayer to give me another chance to live because my children still need my attention," Dorado said in tears.

"Although, we are safe now, I feel guilty because we never got the names of our rescuers and said 'Thank you' to them for their generosity," he added.

Upon landing, the survivors proceeded to the village chapel to offer prayers. The villagers gave them food and water.

"When we arrived at Barangay Danao in Baras town, the people warmly welcomed us. They entertained us as if we were very important visitors," he said.

Olivia Ceriola, owner of the John Oliver, gave them refuge and brought them to a hospital for a medical checkup.

Dorado lost at least 10 kilos. All of them looked old and thin, and had burnt skin.

The four went to the Our Lady of Salvation Church in Tiwi town and had a party with friends.

Silliman urged: Try soap operas in info campaign

BY ALEX V. PAL
PDI Visayas Bureau

DUMAGUETE CITY—A visiting alumnus of the Silliman University is urging school authorities to use radio soap operas in effectively disseminating social messages like coastal resources management and population control.

Adlai J. Amor, secretary of the Board of Directors of the Population Commission International, said in a forum on Wednesday that radio remains the most powerful medium in the world today because it reaches more areas than any other media.

Amor, whose company in Washington D.C. makes soap operas with developmental messages, was one of two alumni of the SU's School of Communication who were invited to speak on modern media trends.

Citing the example of the Peruvian soap opera "Simplimente Maria," which topped the ratings in Latin America from 1969 to 1971, Amor said sales of Singer sewing machines went up each time the program was aired.

Simplimente Maria was a success story of a poor housemaid in Peru who eventually made it big as a clothes designer in France, largely because of the products she fashioned through her Singer sewing machine.

"If you can market sewing machines through soap operas, you can sell social issues like family planning," he said.

Amor said the Center of Excellence in Coastal Resources Management (COE-CRM) Project, in which the School of Communication is involved through the information component, could reach their target, the fishermen, through radio.

During the open forum, Dr. Angel Alcala, who heads the SU Angelo King Center for Research and Environmental Management, said population and environmental issues went hand in hand and might be simultaneously targeted as topics in soap operas.

"This has potential. While it's true that we have convinced fishermen to save their coastal resources, they are reproducing fast. The next logical step is to convince the people not to reproduce," Alcala said.

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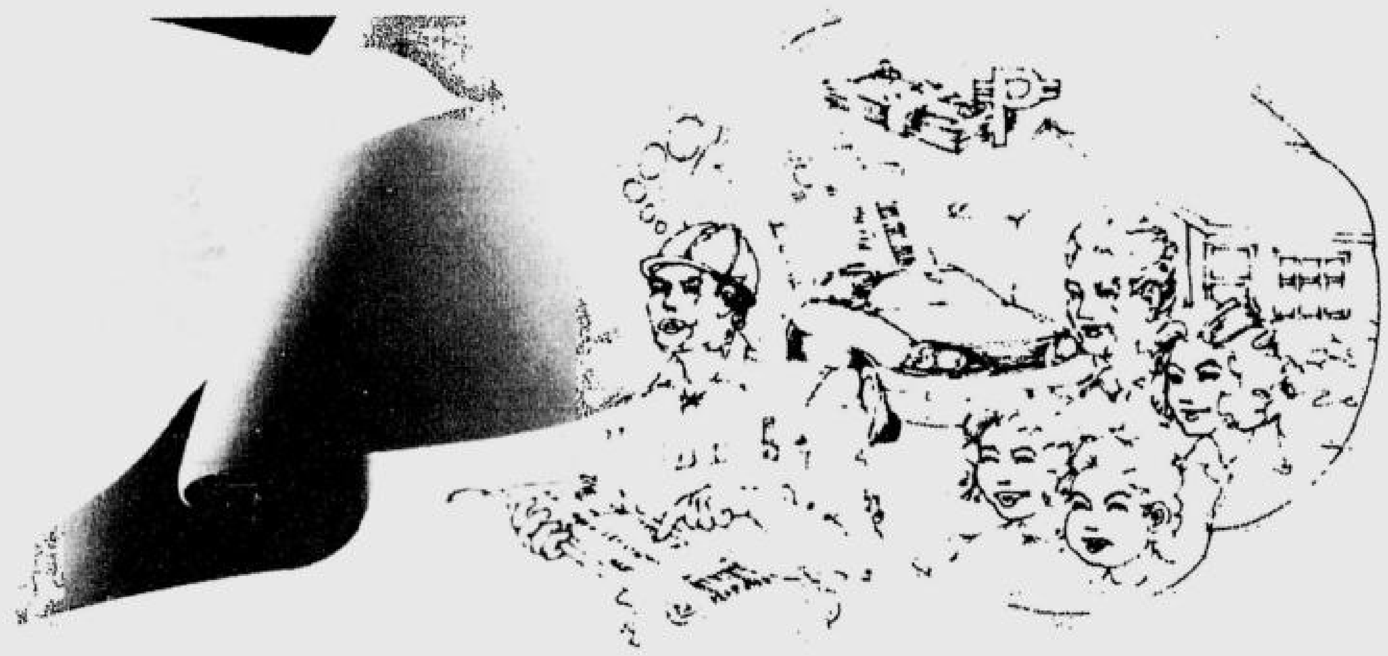

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‘Autonomy doomed from the start’

BY NORALYN MUSTAFA
Jolo, Sulu

THE RESULTS of last week’s plebiscite in 13 provinces and nine cities in the proposed expanded area of Muslim autonomy have confirmed all predictions and forecasts. All, except the province of Basilan and the city of Marawi, resoundingly rejected the idea of being part of an autonomous setup.

Voter turnout was lackluster for several reasons: disinterest, bad weather and, in some areas, fear of violence breaking out.

In Christian-dominated areas, the turnout was reasonably good simply because the residents wanted to express their rejection of autonomy.

In Sulu, the political exercise failed in 28 precincts, according to Comelec provincial director Rolando Pescadera. Fifteen of the precincts are in Panamao and they have remained closed due to the political conflict and bad weather.

A failure was declared in the island-town of Tongkil because the poll paraphernalia did not arrive due to inclement weather.

The capital town of Jolo showed the smallest percentage of actual voters at less than 11 percent of the total number of registered voters.

Pescadera said, however, that voter turnout was close to 49 percent of the provincial total despite the lack of an information drive.

Of the 18 municipalities comprising Sulu, only Luuk, a progressive town at the southwestern tip of the main island of Jolo, voted no to the amendments of Republic Act No. 9054.

Rumors of attack

The day before the plebiscite, rumors flew thick and fast that the Moro National Liberation Front under Nur Misuari would attack to prevent the plebiscite from taking place. Misuari had earlier petitioned the Supreme Court to issue a temporary restraining order to stop the Comelec from conducting the exercise.

Many residents fled their homes for fear of being caught in the expected violence.

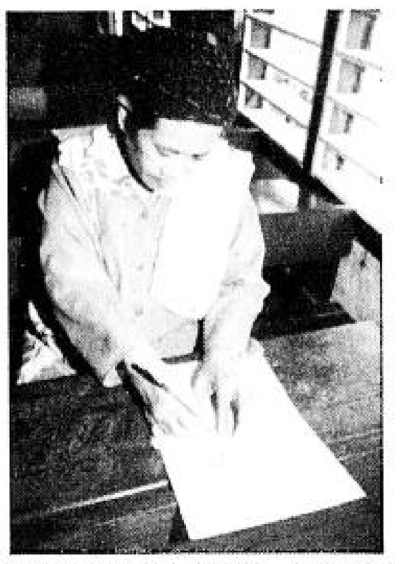
In the densely populated village of Tulay in Jolo, some 50,000 people reportedly evacuated. Among them were the three teachers who were supposed to render duty during the plebiscite.

Evacuations were also reported in other villages.

In Talipao town, the stronghold of Abu Sayyaf leader Commander Robot and Mujib Susukan, tension rose when people noticed the sudden appearance of a big number of MNLF fighters. The residents said it was very unusual because none of the MNLF men had been seen in their town recently, not even at the height of the Abu Sayyaf’s kidnapping activities.

Jolo town, in particular, was on alert because of reports that the MNLF was going to attack and even burn the town. With memories of the 1974 MNLF attack that almost totally devastated the capital town still lingering, there was widespread condemnation of the reported plan.

The attack did not materialize, however. On the eve of the plebiscite, the entire police force, together with MNLF-Army integrees, were on vigil and full alert. Troops were deployed in all entry points.


WHAT did this Muslim women's vote? CHARLIE SACEDA

Gov. Yusop Jikiri dismissed reports of an impending attack as mere rumors. Such an act, he said, “would not conform with the ‘slogan’ of the MNLF members as ‘protesters and saviors’ of the people.”

Should there be violence, “only our people will suffer,” Jikiri said.

Boycott drive

“It is true that we feel bad about government neglect and we feel isolated. Despite this, if we Muslims unite, we can improve our situation, even with limited resources,” he said. The governor was responding to reports that those behind a campaign to boycott the plebiscite claimed it as a violation of the 1996 peace agreement between the government and the MNLF.

In the overall result, only Basilan and Marawi voted to be included in the expanded autonomous region.

The day after the plebiscite, several commentators and broadcast personalities sought to interpret the implications of the results.

Marawi is a component city of Lanao del Sur, which is already part of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao. Its residents have a number of reasons for voting for inclusion, not the least of which could be the expected changes in governance and even the reconfiguration of territorial jurisdiction, resulting from a peace settlement between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front.

What does the Basilan vote mean, apart from the fact that the predominantly Christian city of Isabela voted no? Recent and current developments in that beleaguered province may provide a clue.

But overall, many people concluded that the results were an outright rejection of Misuari’s kind of governance and leadership.

Religious lines

There is also the argument that an autonomous government is simply another layer of bureaucracy, definitely not a situation to be wished for, or voted for.

And no less than President Macapagal-Arroyo concluded that the voting went along religious lines, an observation that seems more to the point.

Ever since the Aquino administration came out with its version of autonomy, a common sentiment of non-Muslim constituents has been that they would never accept being ruled by Muslims. Some even went to the extent of saying that the very name of the concept alone—the autonomous region in *Muslim* Mindanao was, to them, “terrifying” and even “repulsive.”

And it seems the feeling could be mutual. A high official of the present ARMM was overhead saying that “any government run by Christians, no matter how good, is bad for us.” This sounds like an extreme point of view and may not reflect the general attitude, but it only illustrates that the religious divide is very real despite the platitudes of “brotherhood” and many efforts by well-meaning groups to establish “dialogue” between the two faith communities.

Nothing in recent history has been as divisive as the concept of regional autonomy, as stipulated in the agreements between the government and the MNLF.

But the greater implication is that autonomy, as some broadcasters commented, was a “failed experiment” and according to Muslim personalities, who were featured guests on some TV shows, it was “not the answer” to the Moros’ aspiration for self-determination.

Former Gov. Abdusakur Tan said his vote did not mean he was either for Misuari or the 15-men executive council of the MNLF that ousted Misuari as chair.

“I am making my stand as a citizen of Lupah Sug (Sulu), concerned about our people. I voted no because I think the question they are asking is not right and we were not informed of the implications of our choice.”

“The system itself is lacking,” according to Datu Yeldon Kiram of the education department’s division office. “Whoever will run the (regional) government, if the system will not be changed, it will fail.”

He said the voters (in the ARMM) should have been given “other choices.”

“We wanted to be asked whether we still want to be with the ARMM or not. We do not want any addition (to the area of autonomy). Even with just four (provinces), the ARMM was a failure because the governance was not good,” he said.

Who gained?

Lawyer Ulka Ulama said the plebiscite was just “a waste of money.”

“As of now, I do not believe the autonomous government has done enough for the people, to ask other provinces to join. The government did not fulfill its promise in giving full support to the autonomous government, in accordance with the (1996 peace) agreement. I believe it is a waste of money to have another plebiscite, if only to justify, to be able to say that there was a plebiscite.”

Another member of the Kiram royal family, Datu Adkam said “this (the plebiscite) has already been done before. Only four voted to be included, and even these four wanted to be out of the ARMM.”

“The only people who made money out of it (the regional government) are the people who run the government, but those who suffer are the ordinary people. Even the employees in the ARMM suffer from delayed salaries,” he said.

“If there should be autonomy, it should be complete autonomy. It has to be the entire Mindanao. With the present setup, it is useless.”

Jolo Councilor Kissar Samsuya pointed out a reality of the religious differences between Christian and Muslims in the region. “The four provinces are left behind in leadership. Even if all these provinces joined in the autonomous region, the Muslim-dominated provinces would still be in the minority, because we are only four small provinces.”

“I think the same grouping should be followed, according to commonalities in terms of culture and beliefs because we will never gel with them (Christians),” he said.

Tier-making

All these comments seem to validate to the thesis of University of the Philippines Prof. Julkipli Wadi that the failure of the ARMM can be traced to its “structural problem.”

The regional government, according to Wadi, is just the most recent in a long history of “tier-making” and “tier-changing” of both the colonial and Philippine governments in their attempts to govern problematic Mindanao and Sulu, specifically the Moros.

Such mechanisms or “intermediate tiers,” he said, whether district, province, department, brigade, bureau, office, commission, authority, program, presidential task force, development authority, Muslim affairs, autonomous region or regional council were set up primarily as a compromise between the national government’s need to maintain unitary control while satisfying the demand for decentralization, or autonomy, as in the present case.

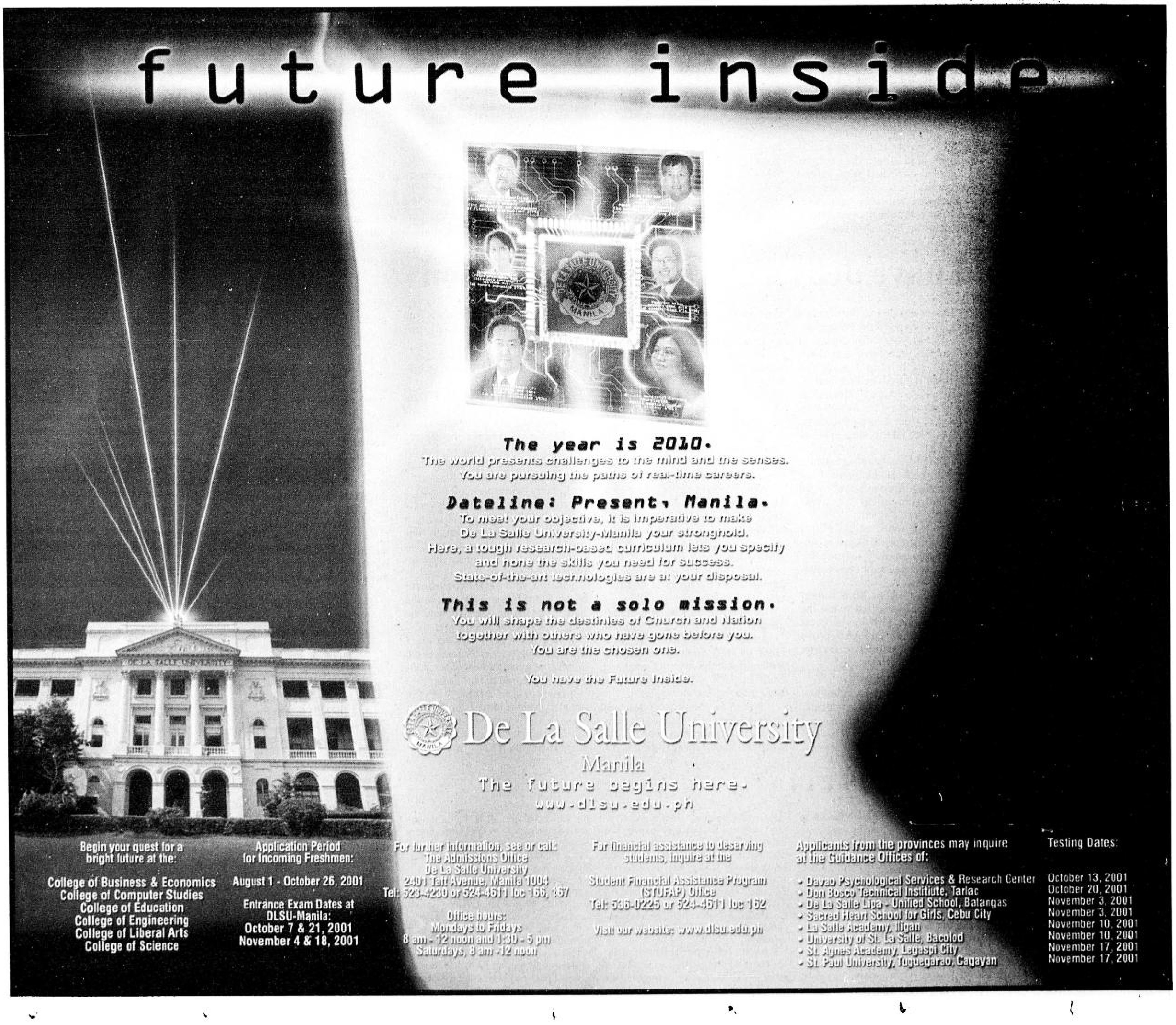
Autonomy was doomed from the very start.

Although the late dictator, Ferdinand Marcos, succeeded in imposing a regional autonomous region on 13 provinces and their component cities, it was an autonomy only in form.

The Aquino version, where a plebiscite resulted in only four provinces, was an administrative nightmare: four noncontiguous provinces, two of them archipelagos separated by a peninsula from the two provinces in mainland Mindanao.

So, whither goest autonomy from here?

A prominent Muslim lawyer, guesting on a TV show, candidly gave the most logical answer: abolish it.


future inside

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Devnani: I wined, gambled with them

(From page Ai)

in 1998; Rolly Asis, owner of the Maalikaya health complex; and Ramon Lee, a partner in Belle Resources, formerly BW Resources.

Other members include Juan Tan Ng, noted fighting cock breeder Georgie Antonio, Roberto See, Quintin Lim, Alfonso Lim and Butch Nievera.

Devnani told senators on Thursday that the club was a place where "evil people" like Estrada, Ang and Sen. Panfilo Lacson used to plot various illegal activities.

With his decision to testify about their alleged illegal activities, Devnani, an Indian national and longtime Philippine resident whom the Estradas have described as a "high roller down on his luck," hopes to earn his own redemption.

"I have wined, dined and gambled with them (Estradas and Atong Ang)," Devnani told reporters at his home yesterday.

"There's much I can say during the Senate hearing, things I learned because they were counting me in," he said in another interview over lunch.

But he quickly clarified that he never got "directly" involved in the alleged crimes.

Even while he was intently listening to Kuratong Baleleng leader Renato Parohinog and Ang allegedly plot kidnapping activities inside nightclubs, he said, God was guiding him to "be careful with them."

He said he is ready to reveal all when he faces the Senate again.

Change of name

Devnani's house in Parañaque mirrors his former affluence. Picture windows light up spacious wood and marble interiors, the tasteful decor punctuated by Indian images and accents. Outside, a lush garden and the quiet neighborhood lend tranquility to the house.

Dharmadas Mahadevmal came to the Philippines in 1976 and acquired permanent residency status in 1979.

He changed his name to Danny Devnani, assuming the first name of his movie idol, Indian actor Danny Denjo Gapa, to make it easier to pronounce. Devnani also used to sport the long curly locks of the actor. His surname, he said, came from relations on his father's side.

He married a Chinese-Filipina, with whom he has three children, now aged 15, eight and four.

He said he accumulated his wealth through a lucrative import and export garments company, Friendsward Philippines Inc.

As his wealth grew, Devnani said, he became a respected member of the Rotary Club branch in Pasay City. He showed reporters framed pictures of himself with former Presidents Fidel Ramos and Estrada, and Pampanga Gov. Lito Lapid,

Change of lifestyle

He was introduced to Estrada when he was still Vice President eight years ago. According to Devnani, his entry into Estrada's social circle changed his lifestyle, leading to big losses at the gambling table and eventually forcing Devnani to shut down his garments business.

He said that at first he just accompanied the Estradas when they gambled. But later, he started to sit at the baccarat table himself in casinos all over Metro Manila.

"Yes I did gamble. But who taught me? The Estrada group. I just joined them. I got carried away. Jinggoy knows very well that he and I gambled together. He has open limit (sic) in casinos," Devnani said.

Now, "you go to any casino and they will know who Danny Devnani is," he said.

His drinking habits changed as well. From a beer drinker, Devnani became a fan of Johnny Walker Blue Label, once Estrada's favorite libation, Meanwhile, the tension at the gambling table and his financial problems led him to take up smoking.

Devnani said that the Estrada group would meet at pricey nightclubs like Lexus and Club 419, or at Whistle Stop, a middle-market, 24-hour restaurant. They would spend much of their time gambling and drinking.

"The lifestyle we led, you people wouldn't imagine," he said, shaking his head.

"I am not afraid because I was one of them," he said at one point.

At another, he didn't seem so sure: "It is so scary to deal with these people. They are good at using people and they are big liars."

Not close to Ping

Lacson has denied knowing Devnani at all.

Devnani told the INQUIRER over lunch that while he had met Lacson "a few times," they were not close at all.

He said the first time he met Lacson was in 1996 at the Heritage Hotel "where Erap and I used to gamble together."

But he stressed that Lacson was not into gambling and that they were introduced at the hotel's coffee shop.

Estrada has admitted knowing Devnani but has emphasized that "we are not close" and that the businessman has been discredited by the Indian community in Manila.

But a member of the Indian community said that the reason Devnani's name had been sullied was because of his ties to Ang and the Estradas: "His name has a negative connotation in the community because of his links with unscrupulous characters."

Devnani agrees. "I have been identified with these evil people," he said, adding that the desire to clear his name among his compatriots contributed to his decision to come out before the Senate.

"I have come from them, they have to try a new gimmick," he said, reacting to the Estrada camp's efforts to destroy his credibility.

Confession

The straw that broke the camel's back for Devnani was the disappearance of casino employee Edgar Bentain in 1999. On Sept. 13 of that year, Devnani, who claims to be deeply religious, decided to see Jaime Cardinal Sin to tell the prelate what he knew.

He spent one hour "confessing" to Sin and told him that "this country is in the hands of devils."

"I spoke a little but I cried too much. I cried and cried and confessed all I know about their illegal activities. He (Sin) said he would pray for me and that I should join him in praying for the country," Devnani recalled.

He added that he also tried to reach out to Ramos, former President Cory Aquino, Rep. Ace Barbers, then Sen. Raul Roco and former sweepstakes agency chief Manoling Morato—all to no avail.

Devnani said that on Christmas Eve, he would take his wife and children to hear Midnight Mass at the St. Jude Church in Malacañang. After hearing Mass, they would attend the annual Christmas Eve party at the home of "Ma'am Guia" Gomez, a longtime companion of Estrada and mother of San Juan Mayor JV Ejercito.

According to Devnani, he said "Goodbye, Mr. President" to Estrada and shook his hand at last year's party at Gomez' house. By then, Estrada's impeachment trial had started, and Devnani had decided to make his break complete. "There were many signs that the people were mad," he said.

'Lots of plans'

Devnani stressed that he did not hold any properties or bank accounts in Estrada's name. But he recalled that sometime in 1997, he got a call from Atong Ang, who told him that "Erap has lots of plans for you and your wife."

He took that to mean that Estrada would use him and his wife as dummies for properties or accounts. Fortunately, he said, the supposed plan never materialized. "I could have joined them but thank God I didn't," he said.

Devnani vehemently denied that he tried to borrow millions from Jinggoy, as reported on television. But he admitted borrowing P500,000 from Jinggoy in 1996 while they were both at the gambling table. He paid back the debt immediately, Devnani said, adding that Jinggoy also used to sometimes borrow money from him during gambling sessions.

He also denied Jinggoy's accusations that he is facing estafa cases. "If there is a case against Danny Devnani, I will face it. Let it come out," he said. "I am not a swindler and I have never stolen any money. If I have debts, that's my problem. In business, who doesn't owe money?"

'Not a bad guy'

Devnani repeated that he has been getting death threats from Ang. He said he incurred Ang's ire after he told the latter he should consider paying his debts to society, including returning about P30 million to a kidnap victim, reportedly an Indian national.

"I could not even bring my kids to school (because of the threats to our lives). I know they are going after me," he said.

"I never expected it would be so hard to be a witness when it comes to telling the truth . . . I'm so disappointed that I am alone. I cannot fight them alone," Devnani said. He added that he is still calling on some of his "friends" to come forward.

At one point in the interview, he sounded defiant. "I have nothing to hide. I'm not a bad guy. Let the truth come out. I'm willing to face it now because my best security is God. They are destroying my name and I expect more bombshells against me. But nobody can stop me from telling the truth."

In a statement he read to the Senate when military intelligence chief Victor Corpus presented him as a surprise witness in the inquiry on allegations against Lacson, Devnani referred to the International Business Club, which replaced Club 419, as "my club."

Under questioning by Senate Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr., however, he claimed that the club was really owned by Estrada, who with Atong Ang put Devnai's name forward as club owner.

The club is best known as the site of the murder of former basketball superstar Arnulfo "Arnie" Tuadles. Businessman Ambet Antonio has since been convicted for the murder.

Tuadles, Devnani said yesterday, "used to advise me a lot: 'Dan, you don't belong to this group.'" He said Tuadles revealed to him a great deal of the alleged illegal activities carried out by Estrada and Lacson's group.

In a press conference yesterday, Devnani said it was Eli Gardiner, "a very good friend of mine," who first brought him to Club 419.

Estrada, who has denied owning the club, has said that Gardiner introduced Devnani to him in 1995. He said Gardiner was one of the original incorporators of the club and eventually made Devnani a partner.

Lawyer says there's another Kim Wong

By Donna S. Cueto

THE LAWYER of alleged drug lord Kim Wong yesterday said there was another man with the same name whom the Interpol had linked to the Chinese trade in illegal drugs.

Wong's lawyer Francisco Chavez said he would formally ask the National Bureau of Investigation and the Philippine National Police tomorrow to request the Interpol for photos of and background information on the "other Wong."

According to Chavez, the "other Wong" is in his 50s,and was connected with one Peter Choi who was supposedly deported from the Philippines after the discovery of his alleged illegal deals in the firm Kingsley Commodities.

He described Choi as a Japanese-speaking Hong Kong businessman with "underworld dealings."

Chavez said his client—who testified Thursday at the Senate investigation of allegations that Sen. Panfilo Lacson was involved in drug trafficking, money laundering and other crimes—"may have faults, but he is not an illegal drug dealer."

"He is not the Kim Wong whom they are looking for," Chavez said.

Military intelligence chief Col. Victor Corpus has accused Chavez's client of being Lacson's drug financier.

Chavez claimed that there were more than 20 Kim Wongs in the country at present.

He said the sole reason his client was being "conveniently utilized" in the controversy surrounding Lacson was Wong's "friendship" with the senator.

"Maybe (my client's) only fault is that he is too friendly," Chavez said.

He said he would pursue the filing of charges of libel, perjury and imputation of a crime against Corpus, government witness Angelo "Ador" Mawanay and former Manila Mayor Alfredo Lim for claiming that his client was a drug lord.

Show must go on

(From page A1)

"We will pursue the probe more vigorously until the truth, which the people have the right to know, comes out," he said, adding that "it is honorable for a man to admit a mistake in exchange for the truth."

Even Senate Minority Floor Leader Aquilino Pimentel said he was not in favor of the Ople-Oreta proposal that the public hearings be immediately terminated.

Pimentel told reporters at the weekly Sulo Hotel press forum that he would suggest a suspension of the hearings instead because there might be evidence forthcoming from the US Justice Department.

He said he knew "for a fact" that Justice Secretary Hernando Perez had officially asked US Attorney General John Ashcroft for copies of certain documents related to the Lacson investigation.

"I think (a termination of the hearings) is a wrong move. It will raise suspicion in the mind of the public that we are trying to cover up for our colleagues," Pimentel said, adding:

"Secondly, the better procedure is . . . to suspend the proceedings so that the burden of producing the evidence necessary to establish responsibility would now fall on the shoulders of the DOJ (Department of Justice) and (military intelligence chief) Col. Victor Corpus. Maybe that is the best way out of the situation."

Alarmed

On Friday, Ople and Oreta said the two Senate hearings had so far yielded no solid evidence of Lacson's supposed involvement in drug trafficking, money laundering, kidnapping for ransom and other crimes. Magsaysay said on the same day that as far as he was concerned, "the two long hearings are good enough."

But yesterday, Father Caluag quoted the survey respondents, including Magsaysay, as saying that they were prepared to end the hearings only after the testimony of all the witnesses had been heard and the evidence reviewed.

"We were alarmed by the Ople-Oreta proposal so we decided to undertake an informal survey to find out the real sentiments of the senators participating in the public hearings," Caluag said.

The priest also said Magsaysay had clarified that he did not want the hearings terminated.

"I decided to withdraw my committee so it could concentrate on other pending work such as (the amendment of the Reserve Officers Training Corps) law and the hearings on the alleged military collusion with the Abu Sayyaf in Basilan," Caluag quoted the senator as saying.

Caluag said his group did not bother anymore to check with Sen. Robert Barbers, chair of the committee on public order and illegal drugs, as the latter had agreed with Biazon to allow Devnani to testify and submit a sworn statement on Lacson's alleged illegal activities.

The priest quoted Pangilinan as saying that it would be "premature" to terminate the hearings at this point, and that he backed Katotohanan's efforts to get to the bottom of the Lacson issue.

Legarda signified her intention to support Katotohanan's "vigilance in ferreting out the truth," Caluag said.

"I think we owe it to the public to continue the hearings," Legarda told the INQUIRER in a phone interview. She added that the people would settle for nothing less than the "unbiased, unflavored, unsaturated truth."

Caluag said Osmeña promised that he would talk with his colleagues to convince them not to stop the hearings.

Absent

Recto wondered "what kind of committee report we will have" if the hearings were terminated.

Besides, he told the INQUIRER, Oreta and Ople were not even present at the Senate executive session when the DOJ, National Bureau of Investigation and Intelligence Service of the Armed Forces of the Philippines presented documents to support the claim that Lacson had millions of dollars stashed abroad.

Recto also said Oreta attended the public hearings only once, and Ople, not at all.

Dante Jimenez, chair of the Volunteers Against Crime and Corruption, said Ople and Oreta should resign.

"Obviously, Senators Ople and Oreta no longer want to do their job. They do not want to listen to the testimony of witnesses that could hurt the image of their Mr. Clean colleague," Jimenez said in reference to Lacson's campaign tack.

"They might as well resign and allow the other senators who want the truth to come out to continue with the hearings," he said, adding that the Senate owed it to the people to protect them from "narcopolitics."

Pimentel said he did not know when his colleagues would formally ask the Senate to stop the hearings but that if they did so, he would file his own motion to suspend the hearings.

He said he himself would not initiate the motion to stop or suspend because he was expecting documents from the US Justice Department to arrive soon under the RP-US Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty.

"For all I know, these documents might be already forthcoming. Maybe it's already being shipped. I'm just speculating," he said.

But Pimentel pointed out that Isafp chief Corpus and his witnesses had provided only "broad testimonies" without specific allegations.

"There is really no additional substantial, verified and official evidence to back up the story of Colonel Corpus," he said.

He also denied accusations that at the Thursday hearing, the senators treated alleged drug lord Kim Wong leniently, compared with the grilling Corpus got earlier.

"I don't know where they got that impression. For one, Kim Wong is a side issue in this whole thing. If they want to investigate Kim Wong, they should have specific allegations against him," Pimentel said.

Interested

Legarda, whom Isafp witness Angelo "Ador" Mawanay earlier accused of buying smuggled cellular phones from Lacson, told the INQUIRER that she would be the first to register the strongest opposition to the proposal to end the hearings.

"We cannot go on an abrupt termination. There will be issues left hanging," she said, adding that the truth would serve to clear the innocent and damn those found to have testified falsely.

She said, for example, that she was interested to know the truth about Wong and claims that the Philippine Navy's elite units were engaged in drug trafficking.

Legarda also said that if some senators were concerned about the hearings' effect on the legislative mill, then these should be held "expeditiously" and frequently.

Magsaysay stressed that he disagreed with the position of Ople and Oreta.

"In the eyes of the Filipino people, it is not only Senator Lacson who is under scrutiny here, but also the entire Senate as an institution," he said.

Military could have delivered ransom, says solon

(From page A1)

his orders.

But he also admitted that he had called his commanders to a briefing.

"Basically, the ground commanders did not know where the pullout order came from. Neither could any of them confirm or deny who ordered the pullout or if there was any order at all," said Surigao Del Norte Rep. Robert Ace Barbers.

Witnesses had told the committee behind closed doors that Abu Sayyaf bandits moved out of the hospital in single file, allegedly after the soldiers guarding the rear of the building abandoned their post.

But Dominguez said there was no order to abandon the soldiers' position. He said they were merely transferred for fear of being hit during a bombing run by MG-520 attack helicopters.

But he later testified that he also ordered the attack on the hospital by helicopter gunships MG 520 using rockets "to loosen up the ASG in the compound."

But Zubiri noted that the rocket fire sent the troops guarding the rear exit scampering away, leaving the back of the hospital unguarded.

"This is contrary to the claim of the Armed Forces of the Philippines that it did not want to fire directly at the hospital and church due to the hostages. (The order) made the troops pull out from behind (and allow the ASG to escape)," Zubiri said.

Dominguez said the troops were not recalled from their posts but that he only called their commanders to a briefing.

He called for a briefing because an anti-terrorist unit had arrived and the commanders needed to be briefed on subsequent operations against the Abu Sayyaf.

"It is the word of a soldier against that of a priest. A priest cannot lie while soldiers can lie. Fr. Nacorda can't lie but he can be mistaken," he said.

Valenzuela Rep. Magtanggol Gunigundo observed that "while the version of the AFP has several lapses, it is still not enough to prove that there was a deliberate attempt to allow the ASG to escape."

New affidavit

In an intriguing twist, a witness has reportedly submitted an affidavit to the committee testifying that Basilan governor Wahab Akbar and Lamitan Mayor Inocente Ramos were inside the hospital when Abu Sayyaf bandits slipped through a military cordon last June 2.

The affidavit was one of the testimonies submitted to the committee when it held an executive session at the Claret School last Friday in Lamitan.

Congressional probers tried to piece together the mystery behind the escape of the Abu Sayyaf bandits in the afternoon of June 2 after they held a second hearing at the Basilan State College here yesterday.

At yesterday's hearing, Dominguez, Col. Jovenal Narcise, Major Eliseo Campued, Capt. Nicolas Quemado and Capt. Hubert Acierto told the members of the committee that they were "innocent" of the accusations leveled against them by Nacorda and several other witnesses.

Dominguez said he felt "bludgeoned" by Nacorda's allegations.

Armed Forces of the Philippines chief of staff General Diomedio Villanueva and Southern Command chief Lt. Gen. Gregorio Camiling were also present at the hearing.

"Nacorda has no personal knowledge of the malicious accusations he has hurled against me. He was 1-kilometer away hiding in his church. There are no witnesses who can collaborate his accusations," Dominguez said.

He said his order to Narcise was "to assault (Jose Ma. Torres Hospital) before sundown."

"The next time we talk I want you inside the church," Dominguez recalled saying to Narcise.

He also insisted that he did not negotiate with the Abu Sayyaf for the release of three hostages, including businessman Reghis Romero.

Several witnesses, in Friday's executive session, claimed they saw an aide of Dominquez carrying a suitcase, allegedly containing ransom money, inside the Lamitan District Hospital. Dominguez also denied this allegation.

Narcise, who was the commander of the 103rd Infantry Brigade at the time of the incident, also denied the allegations hurled against him.

"My conscience is clear because I have nothing to hide, as soldiers we just did our job to the best of our abilities," Narcise told the INQUIRER.

Most of the blame for the bungled operation was centered on Narcise, the ground commander at the time of the incident. *With reports from AP, AFP*

Inquirer founder wins . . .

(From Page A1)

Immediately after the assassination of former Senator Benigno Aquino Jr. in 1983, she launched the Special Edition of Mr. & Ms. Magazine, which chronicled and supported the protest movement against dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

By December 1985 the Mr. & Ms. Special Edition had evolved into the Philippine Daily INQUIRER, whose board of directors Apostol chaired until her retirement in 1994.

Why Pinoy Times

Two years ago, as public dissatisfaction with the administration of President Joseph Estrada grew, she became convinced of the urgent need for a paper that would address the Filipino masses. Her response was to found Pinoy Times, a tabloid-size paper in Filipino.

"I have only been two years into what I now consider the really worthwhile years of my life," Apostol said during her keynote speech delivered last week at the Konrad Adenauer Center for Journalism at the Ateno de Manila.

"For over 50 years, I was practicing journalism in English, addressing only the English-speaking middle and higher classes of Filipinos . . . I was moved to start a tabloid-sized newspaper. We called it Pinoy Times, and this was planned to address the audience of lower-income readers who were the followers of this president, Joseph Estrada," Apostol further explained.

Pinoy times was the first to break the story and the photos of the Estrada mansions along with a series on his mistresses.

Knight fellowship program

The ICFJ was established in 1984 to strengthen the quality of journalism worldwide through professional training and exchanges. It is the only nonprofit organization in the United States that is dedicated exclusively to developing the print media, radio and television abroad.

Among the fellowship programs it administers for American and overseas journalists, the best known is the Knight International Press Fellowship Program, which is the largest private-sector media assistance program in the United States.

This program sends experienced professionals around the world to provide training and consulting assistance on a wide range of media issues.

Madonna . . .

(From page 1)

brand of condoms featuring the singer's face on the package and called, of all things, "Madonna Condoms."

The package shows a headshot of Madonna, taken from a series of nude photos made in 1979 by photographer Martin Schreiber. He sold the rights to the pictures two years ago to VDM International, which in turn sold the US rights to CondoMania, a company that sells sex toys and condoms.

A spokesperson for Madonna had no comment but sources close to the star said she was upset by the US release of the prophylactics.

Madonna had initially fought Schreiber's sale to European distributor VDM International two years ago, but ultimately relinquished because he produced a signed agreement with the star from 1979, which stated he had rights to the pictures.

The original deal was also supposed to be just for Europe and Japan, where "Madonna Condoms" have reportedly sold well.

CondoMania bought the US rights to the condoms and plans to sell them through its Greenwich Village store in New York and online at (http://www.condomania.com).

In June, Madonna's representatives sent a letter to CondoMania demanding that the company stop selling anything with Madonna's unauthorized likeness.

Signature Network, which handles Madonna's licensing through the star's Boy Toy Inc. company, had no comment on the condoms.

Madonna's label, Maverick Records, also declined comment.

CondoMania president and founder Adam Glickman said he's using the "Madonna Condom" to help educate people about safe sex. *Reuters*

An emotional bond forged in fire

(From page A1)

The first call, Santos said, was a complaint about the attending doctor who allegedly refused to sign the death certificate and have the body released until he was assured of his professional fee.

The second was another call for help—the family could not afford a coffin for Casaña who hails from Pangasinan.

"Minutes later I got a third call: the dead needed new clothes," Santos told the INQUIRER.

Santos said the best he could do at the time was to refer the problem immediately to the Quezon City government's social services department.

Casaña's case was just one of the many Santos had to attend to.

As of this writing, he said, another victim, Remedios Nicanor, urgently needed P15,000 as she had to undergo treatment for a spinal injury she sustained from falling down the hotel stairs during the fire.

Seeking scholarships

Only a week after the hotel fire, the Ozone group already has long-term plans for some of the Manor victims.

In case of the late Casaña, Santos said, "we learned that he left behind two children aged four and two, his aging parents and his 23-year-old widow, a housewife who is eight months pregnant.

"We plan to seek scholarship grants for his children," Santos said.

Getting the grants would not be impossible, he said.

The Ozone Foundation was able to find scholarship sponsors for at least eight of its survivor-members. It also found employment for nine other victims.

The first major challenge for the foundation is to have the Manor victims organized—or at least inspire them to get organized—a task made very difficult by the fact that almost all of them live outside Metro Manila. Some hail from as far as Mindanao.

To locate the victims who had returned to the provinces, the Ozone group has started coordinating with the Don Clowers Ministry, the Christian fellowship where most of the Manor victims were members. (The victims were in Manila to attend a major ministry activity at the Araneta Coliseum.)

The whole vision was to have the Manor victims heal their wounds as one cohesive, public entity the way Ozone victims did.

Santos recalls: "We (Ozone) victims got together (and) we helped one another in our physical or emotional rehabilitation. We publicly observed the anniversary of the fire, held fund-raisers. Later we even had a Valentine's party (and) ballroom dancing."

The Ozone foundation took almost two months after the March 18, 1996 incident to take shape.

Abraham Nicanor, the husband of Remedios Nicanor who needs treatment for her spinal injury, said he could only hope that Santos and company would "continue what they've started."

"I know it will be hard to have us organized, but (my family) will be available anytime should our presence be required in Manila," he said.

The Nicanors hail from Binalonan, Pangasinan.

Learning from mistakes

Ozone Foundation legal counsel Rod Domingo is now reviewing the country's Fire and Building Code. He hopes to repeat for the Manor victims the victory he bagged for the Ozone group last March 16, when a Quezon City judge sentenced two of the disco's owners to four years in jail and ordered them to pay P27 million to the victims. A total of 160 people died in the Ozone fire; there were 95 survivors.

"We could now avoid repeating the mistakes we committed in the Ozone case. We also know who are the people who could help us and who would not," Domingo told the INQUIRER.

Domingo said the legal work required by the Manor case is considerably lighter with respect to the identification of the victim-claimants, unlike in the Ozone case wherein many of the fatalities were burned beyond recognition.

"I also think we now have a better chance of filing the proper complaints and in gathering evidence because of the lessons we learned from Ozone," he said.

Like Domingo, Agustin Torres, an engineer and former overseas worker who lost a teenaged son in the 1996 disco blaze, is reprising the role he played in the Ozone case, this time for the benefit of the Manor victims.

Torres said he was willing to take the witness stand in the event of a court case and use his technical knowledge to point out the Manor Hotel's alleged violations of the Fire and Building Code. He could also help the court trace the chain of corruption that spawned the hotel's alleged negligence.

Torres is hoping that "we can get all the victims to file formal complaints."

Torres said they also hoped that all their legal and organizational work in the Ozone foundation would "set the standards" in the prosecution of cases involving major, man-made disasters in the country.

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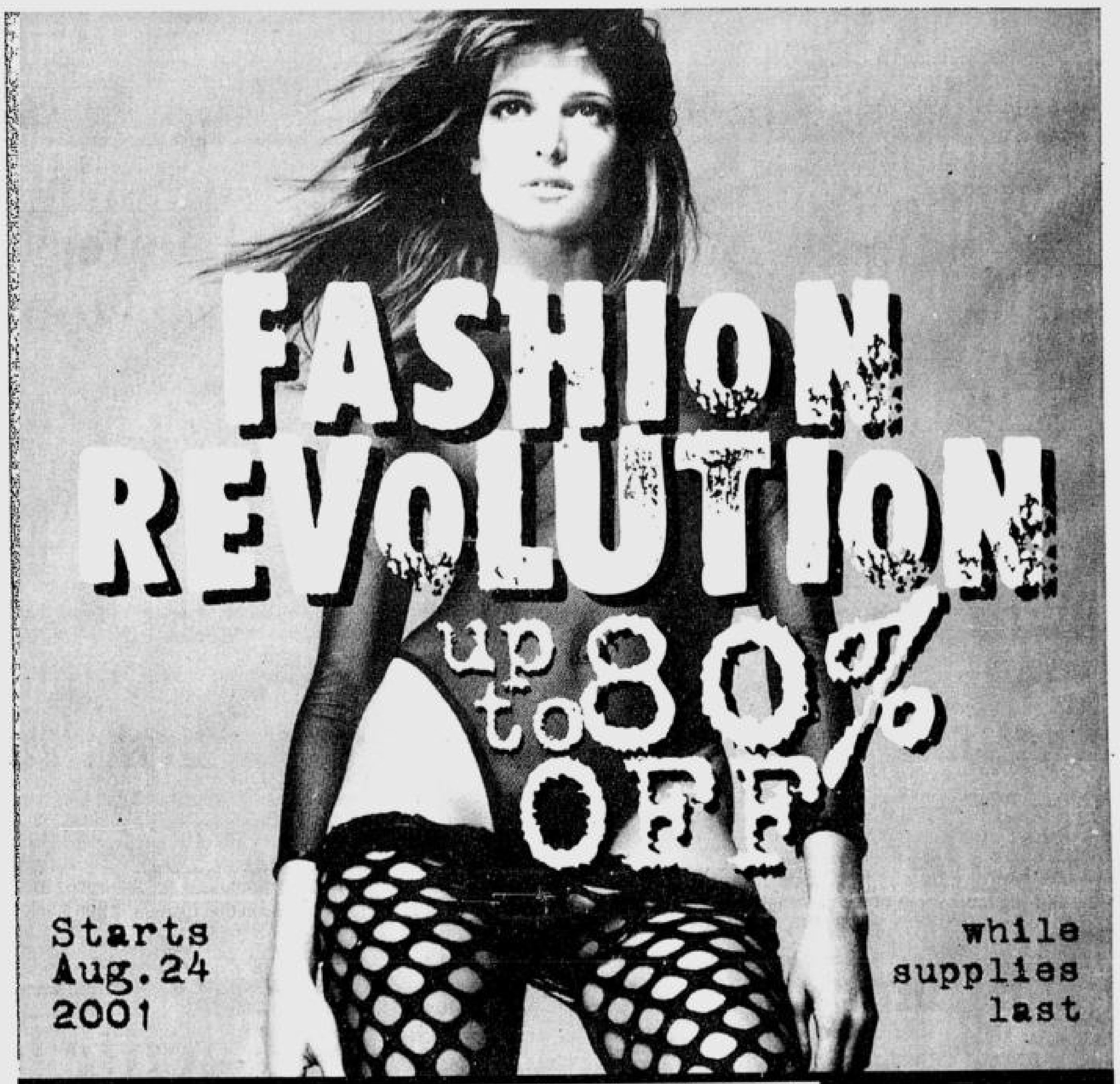

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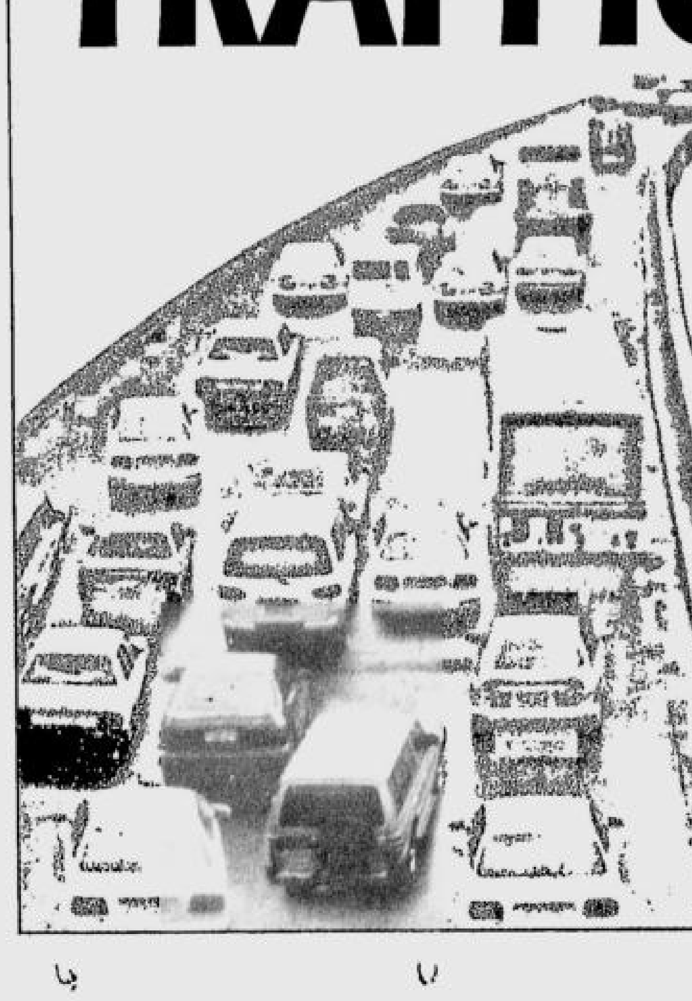
HEAVY TRAFFIC can cause HEART ATTACK



Inside your body, a "traffic jam" caused by BLOOD CLOTTING can trigger a serious and fatal heart attack!
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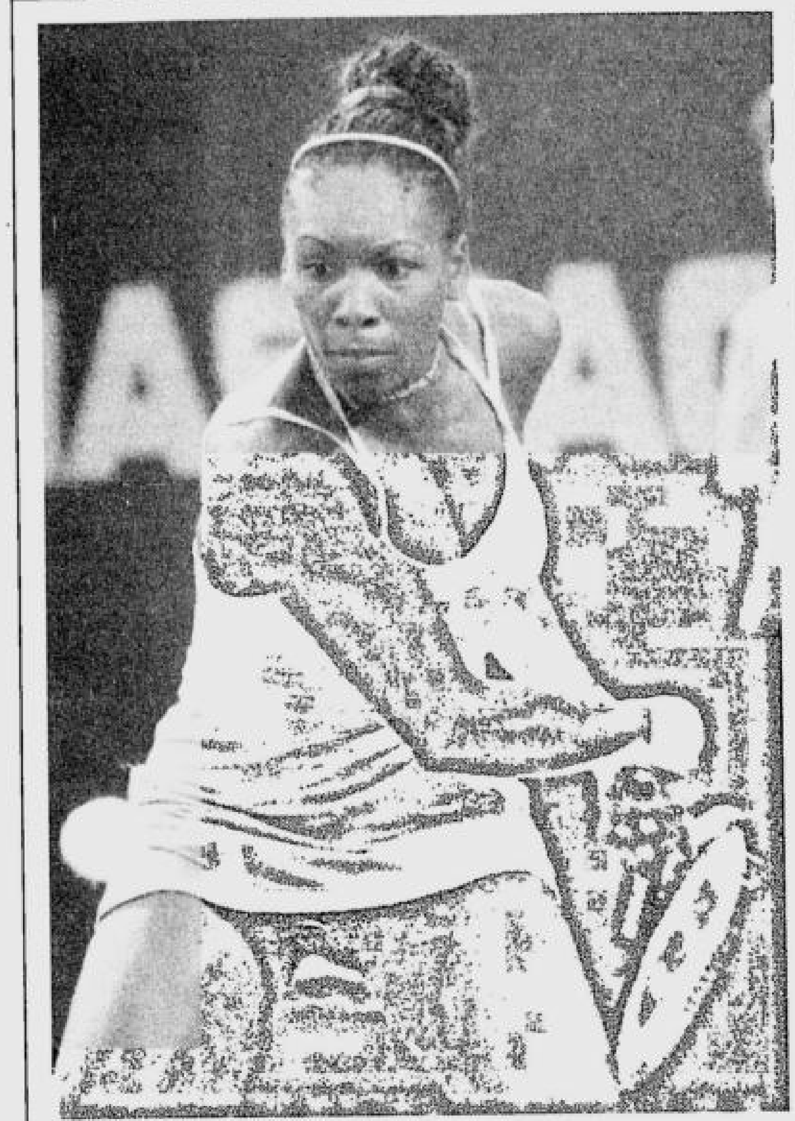
SEA GAMES

PSC ups gold bonus to ₱.1M



PLANET VENUS

Venus Williams prepares to return a shot to Jennifer Capriati during their semifinal round singles match at the Pilot Pen tennis tournament in New Haven, Conn., yesterday. Williams defeated Capriati, 6-4,7-6, to arrange a title showdown today against Lindsay Davenport. AP

THE PHILIPPINE Sports Commission (PSC) has increased the cash incentive for a gold medal in next month's Southeast Asian Games in Kuala Lumpur to P100,000.

The new bonus for a gold medal marks a more than 30 percent increase from the P75,000 given to the country's event winners during the last SEA Games in Brunei two years ago.

Silver winners will still get P50,000 while the bronze medal incentive remains at P25,000.

This is over and above other incentives given by the private sector and other government agencies.

"We thought it best to raise the cash reward to whatever we can afford and hopefully, this will encourage our athletes to really go for gold in Malaysia," said Philippine Sports Commission chair Carlos Tuason yesterday.

Philippine Sports Commissioner Richie Garcia, co-chair of the joint SEA Games Task Force, said the new incentive for a gold medal is just commensurate to the hard work the athletes spend in training.

Garcia said the PSC has been continuously coordinating with the Task Force and the various National Sports Associations (NSAs) in the final preparations of the athletes.

He said that as of this week, more than P30 million has been used for the equipment of the SEA Games standard bearers.

Almost 98 percent of the equipment according to Garcia were already delivered to the different SEA Games participants.

Garcia has maintained a modest estimate of surpassing the 19 gold medals won by the country in Brunei. But he also believes the projected 40 golds is attainable.

Indons, Chinese shine

TRUE to their pre-tournament hype, Indonesia and China dominated the JVC Asian Badminton Championships with Indonesia sending four entries to the championships and China three in an action-packed semifinal round yesterday at the Philsports Arena.

The men's doubles will be an all-Indon finale as top seeded Tony Gunawan and Chandra Wijaya beat Chinese Chen Rui and Wang Wei, 15-4, 17-14, to arrange a clash for the $13,000 purse against Bambang Supriyanto and Trikus Haryanto, who downed compatriots Hendra Gunawan and Alvent Yulianto, 15-4, 15-9.

National golfers depart for Malaysia tomorrow

THE PHILIPPINE golf teams will leave early for Kuala Lumpur tomorrow to familiarize themselves with the playing conditions in the Southeast Asian Games.

Aware of the tough challenge the Nationals will be facing, the National Golf Association of the Philippines in cooperation with the Philippine Sports Commission is sending off both the men's and women's squads, including coach George Walker, to the Games' site for a two-week preparation.

"We intend to let the players get familiar with the character of the course and we are certain that the two-week practice will enhance our chances for victory," said NGAP president Rod Feliciano.

Feliciano and other NGAP officials had a pep talk with the golf teams yesterday, advising them to become "ambassadors of goodwill for the Philippines, stay focus on the game and at the same time have fun."

Making up the men's team are Juvic Pagunsan, Boyet Saragoza, Jay Bayron, Marvin Dumandan and Gene Bondoc while the ladies squad is composed of Carmelette Villaroman, Ruby Chico Walker, Heidi Chua and Lucy Landicho. Also with the team is Aileen Chua, who will be the physical therapist and medical consultant for the group.

NGAP training pool chair Iggy Clavecilla, for his part, said the teams have shown marked improvement the past few weeks of training under Walker.

He cited Pagunsan's runaway victory in the Canlubang Open where he won with an 11-under-par score for 72 holes and with a course record 64 in the second round to boot.

"Juvic has proven time and again that he can shoot a very low score on a good day. He will be our main weapon in Malaysia," said Clavecilla.

While it will be the international debuts of Saragoza, Bayron, Dumandan and Bondoc, Clavecilla feels they will be able to handle the big pressure.

The Philippines is defending champion in men's play after the now-professional Gerald Rosales took the individual gold and, together with Marlon Dizon, Angelo Que and Rhey Luna, now also a pro, also picked up the team crown.

Reader advises JB, Silver Story's handlers

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

THE *bayang kareristas'* reactions/ comments on that unforgettable Silver Story setback to Sonata on July 1 just keep on coming in.

And one of those who sent us a very interesting mail was **Rudy Austria of Gagalangin, Tondo, Manila.**

We just can's say no to our readers so here's Mr. Austria's letter:

Dear Mr. Villanueva:

May I add some comments and observations regarding the loss of Silver Story to Sonata last July 1 at the Sta. Ana Park.

In fairness, Sonata is also a very good horse. *Hindi puwedeng biruin. Kapag hindi pinagbuti ng kalaban, talagang may talo sila.*

At first, I said, *talagang matatalo* si Silver Story *sa* time *na ginawa ni* Sonata—1,450m = 1:31.4 (16-23-24.5-27.5) on a muddy track and under a driving rain. Although second time na ni Silver Story sa 1,450m (the first one was a barrier run on Feb. 21), nag-umento pa ang husto ito after five months.

Silver Story finished the race at 1:31.4 with quarter clockings of 15.5-25-24-27. *Pero alalay lang ang takbo.* Identical time when he lost to Sonata in a regular race. I thought, Silver Story lost an honest race to Sonata. That's why, I supposed, there was no suspension nor suspicion made by the stewards on JB Hernandez. I was wrong.

On July 8 at San Lazaro, just before the Horseman's Cup, JB Hernandez was interviewed and asked about his comment on the lost of Silver Story to Sonata. I can't remember verbatim his answer. Part of the interview was: JB Hernandez: *"OK lang po yon. Ito naman ang pinaghahandaan namin."*

Ano ang translation nito sa racing aficionados who placed their wagers on Silver Story, totalling to more than P1 million? Tantamount to lack of interest, carelessness, sudden reversal of attitude? Tell me!

What do you think of the instruction of the owner/s or trainer of Silver Story on JB Hernandez? Will they admit that they ordered their jockey not to urge their horse because of one big forthcoming stakes race.

Sabi nga, big bucks. *Pero, di bale nang masuspinde basta manalo lang dahil malaking premyo ang* involved? Whew! *Nasuspinde nga* for foul riding *si* JB Hernandez, but Silver Story was still declared the winner. Nabulag na naman ang mga steward!

My unsolicited advice to the handlers of Silver Story and Hernandez: Don't tarnish the reputation of Silver Story's racing career. Millions of racing aficionados admired the bravery of the horse. *Sayang*. We're pretty sure that you have made a very good investment returns. But, Let the racing fans get their money's worth and enjoy horse racing.

On Hernandez: Please always do your best decision when on top of any horse running in a particular race. You will go a long way. You're young, and have ample room for improvement. Your feats and achievements will surely be remembered by the racing fans. *Baka pasalamatan ka pa*!

Thank you very much and more power, Edwin.

***

One Winner can also be reached at evillanueva@inquirer.com.ph or sports@inquirer.com.ph. Our fax nos. are 897-4793 and 8974794.

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1—1. Batang Pier 2. Dona Evelyn 3. Smooth Sailing

Race 2—1. I Dare You 2. Bohemyo 3. Arabica 4. Pinagpala

Race 3—1. Sky Wind 2. Poblacion 3. My Prayer 4. Hunting Treasure 5. Inside Treasure

Race 4—1. Umaatikabo 2. Schwarzenegger 3. Blink n Wink 4. Conquer D Sun 5. Tochinic

Race 5—1. Diva Dixie 2. Super Dancer 3. Powerhouse 4. Royal Diamond

Race 6—1. Brenda Star 2. Prince of Africa 3. Power Corrupts 4. Majestic Ruler

Race 7—1. Bagoba 2. Perfect Nine 3. Always 4. Native Talent 5. Loose Cannon

Race 8—1. Bidang Bida 2. Men of Honor

Race 9—1. Favorite Trick 2. Mrs. Big 3. Duces Tecum 4. Red Anya 5. Queen Storm

Race 10—1. Ysabela 2. Good Grace 3. Top Quest 4. Kay Rufina

Race 11—1. Bull Rider 2. Hostile Witness 3. Agree to Agree 4. Proud Idol

Race 12—1. Cubano 2. Michael's Way 3. Grace and Fortune 4. Boomerang

Race 13—1. All Smiles 2. Gimme A Ring 3. Lorna 4. Pay Check 5. Hurry Prince

Race 14—1. Perfect Gift 2. Gold Honors 3. King Edward 4. Swinger 5. Strong Bird 6. Race for Gold

BASEBALL RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

	W	L	PCT	GB
East				
New York	75	54	.581	—
Boston	71	56	.559	3
Toronto	62	67	.481	13
Baltimore	54	74	.422	20 1/2
Tampa Bay	46	83	.357	29
Central				
Cleveland	72	56	.562	—
Minnesota	67	62	.519	5 1/2
Chicago	64	63	.504	7 1/2
Detroit	53	74	.417	18 1/2
Kansas City	51	78	.395	21 1/2
West				
Seattle	93	36	.721	—
Oakland	73	56	.566	20
Anaheim	68	61	.527	25
Texas	56	73	.434	37

NATIONAL LEAGUE

	W	L	Pct	GB
East				
Atlanta	70	57	.551	—
Philadelphia	69	58	.543	1
Florida	61	66	.480	9
New York	59	69	.461	11 1/2
Montreal	55	73	.430	15 1/2
Central				
Houston	74	54	.578	—
Chicago	70	58	.547	4
St. Louis	70	58	.547	4
Milwaukee	56	71	.441	17 1/2
Cincinnati	51	77	.398	23
Pittsburgh	47	80	.370	26 1/2
West				
Arizona	73	54	.575	—
San Francisco	72	56	.562	1 1/2
Los Angeles	70	58	.547	3 1/2
San Diego	62	65	.488	11
Colorado	55	72	.433	18

COMPLETE RESULTS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Toronto 5, Baltimore 0; Chicago White Sox 5, Tampa Bay 4; Boston 7, Texas 4; Minnesota 9, Kansas City 3; Anaheim 6, N.Y. Yankees 2; Seattle 4, Cleveland 1; Detroit 8, Oakland 4

NATIONAL LEAGUE

St. Louis 10, Chicago Cubs 8; Houston 5, Pittsburgh 1; Montreal 6, Cincinnati 4; Florida 6, San Diego 3; Philadelphia 6, Arizona 5; N.Y. Mets 4, San Francisco 3; Los Angeles 4, Atlanta 1; Colorado 12, Milwaukee 6. AP

UST. . . (From page A18)

the solo leadership in the eight-team field with an 8-1 win-loss slate, with Ateneo in second at 7-1.

In the other senior game, National University also shifted its semifinals drive into high gear with an 82-68 win over Adamson, whose string of losses is getting to be talk of the town in the sporting world.

The Bulldogs improved their record to 5-4, same card of the Far Eastern University Tamaraws, who bowed to the University of the Philippines Maroons, 71-64, last Thursday. Adamson is 0-9, after finishing 0-14 last year.

"I told the boys we badly need to win if we want to be in the Final Four," said UST coach Aric del Rosario, author of La Salle's four-peat from 1993-96.

Scores:

NU 82—Cayabyab 15, Napa 13, Baguion 13, Tolentino 10, Neo 10, Grijaldo 8, De Castro 6, Santico 5, Manabat 2, Urbano 0.

ADAMSON 68—Hate 17, Tagupa 16, Rolan 9, Mamaclay 8, Catabay 5, Abadia 4, Ferrer 4, Mangulabnan 3, Capati 2, Yong 0.

Quarters:16-21, 29-37, 50-52, 82-68.

10 YEARS AGO

CARL Lewis clocked 9.86 seconds to set a world record in the 100-meter dash at the 3rd World Track and Field Championships in Tokyo. Six other runners broke 10 seconds, making the race the fastest sprint in track and field history.

* * *

WILLIE De Tomas two-putted for par on the 18th to evade a playoff with Danny Zarate and grab the crown of the Philip Morris Golf Classic series at the Apo course in Davao City. De Tomas' one-over-par 73 gave him a one-stroke victory over Zarate, 282 to 283.

Cebu Pacific leads Rotary golf patrons

CEBU Pacific has confirmed its sponsorship of the 15th Rotary Golfing Fellowship Foundation of the Philippines southern leg to be held at the newly opened Ranchó Palos Verdes in Davao City.

As the official carrier of the country's biggest tournament for Rotarians, Cebu Pacific is giving a 50 percent discount on all plane fares to and from Davao City, bringing down the Manila-Davao-Manila fare to only P3,307.

Likewise, Marco Polo Hotel joins the list of RGFFP supporters by extending generous rates on its modern and centrally located establishment. It will be the official hotel of the event.

With the P1 million hole-in-one prize from Seaboard Eastern Insurance awaiting the lucky golfer and the preparations being done by key Rotarians from Visayas and Mindanao, the event is expected to elicit fellowship and friendly competition among golfing Rotarians from all over the country.

PDG Bobby Legaspi announced three teams from Baguio, multi-titled Metro West Triangle two teams, Makati West, Makati North, Quezon City, Bagumbayan, Taytay and Cavite a team each.

Luzon leg champions East Rizal and Rtn. Jungki Flores of RC Cebu South will defend their team and individual titles, respectively.

PDG Anton Florendo has started remitting Cebu Rotarians entry fees and PP Sonny Garcia of RC Davao West is very optimistic of the participation of around 150 Mindanao Rotarians and the projected 300-400 Rotarians are well on target.

For more information, call 721-0564, 721-8896 or fax 721-5910. For participants from the south, call 032-2535720 and 082-2242497.

Tecson, Cantadas leave

JENZ Tecson leaves today for Kuala Lumpur to compete in the 7th SportExcel Asia-Pacific Boys Junior Matchplay Championship at the Subang Golf Club on Aug. 27-30. He will be accompanied by Philippine Junior Golf Federation president, Edgardo "Tito Boy" Cantada (delegation head) and coach Gerard Cantada. They will be flown on Business Class direct to Kuala Lumpur by Malaysia Airlines. The trip is supported by Milo and Outback Steakhouse. Tournament format is matchplay and the field is limited to twenty-four invited junior players.

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Guam trip awaits ace maker

AN ALL-expense paid trip to Guam is at stake in a hole-in-one contest to be held as a promotional campaign by the Guam Visitors Bureau (GVB) for the whole month of September at the Kagitingan Driving Range.

Golfers will be allowed to take a crack at the prize for five consecutive Saturday mornings from designated stalls at the Kagitingan range inside Fort Bonifacio in Taguig.

The event, dubbed the Guam-in-One contest, starts at 9 a.m. all the way until noon.

The GVP is the lead organization of the contest with the support of Continental Airlines as the official carrier, Mizuno as the official equipment and the Pacific Islands Club as official hotel.

The sponsorship agreements were recently signed by GVB Philippine representative Kendrick U. Go, Continental Micronesia general manager Ramon Magno and Lovell Gopez, managing director of Master Sports.

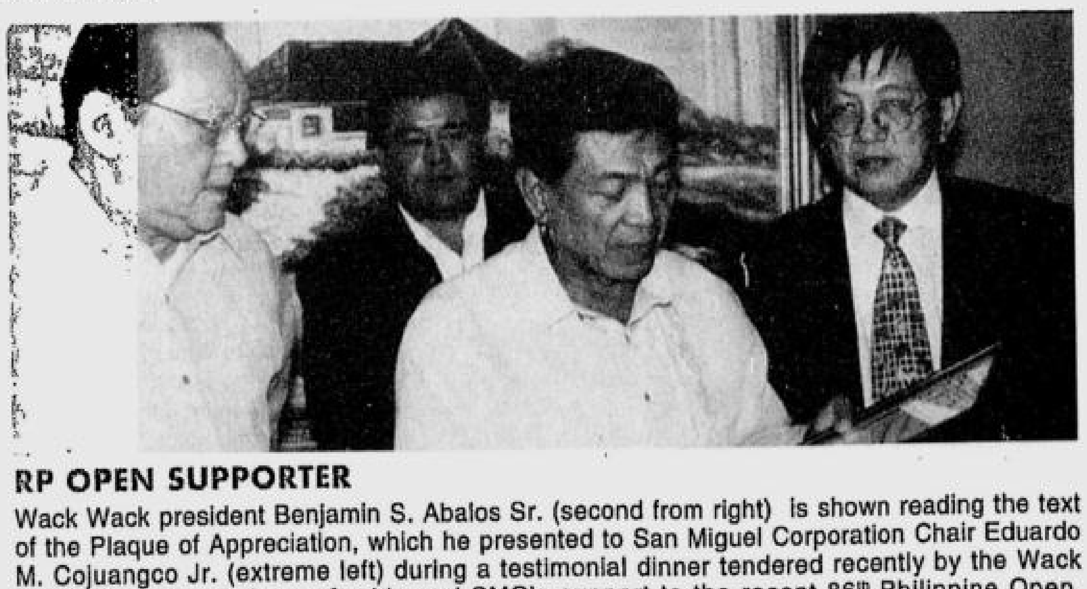
"Through the hole-in-one contest, we hope to promote Guam as a golfing destination as well as provide the local market with a better knowledge of what the island is all about," said Go.

Mizuno, for its part, is donating numerous special prizes and will also allow free use of its top-of-the-line and latest model clubs.

For more information about Guam, visit www.visitguam.org or contact the Guam Visitors Bureau Philippines Marketing Representative Office at 753-2556 to 57 or 817-1398.

Furyk leads NEC meet

AKRON, Ohio —Jim Furyk quietly went about his business at Firestone Country Club on Friday and posted a 4-under-par 66 to build a two-stroke lead at the NEC Invitational. Tiger Woods made a 15-foot (4.5-meter) birdie on the final hole for a 67 that left him tied with Phil Mickelson. AP



RP OPEN SUPPORTER

Wack Wack president Benjamin S. Abalos Sr. (second from right) is shown reading the text of the Plaque of Appreciation, which he presented to San Miguel Corporation Chair Eduardo M. Cojuangco Jr. (extreme left) during a testimonial dinner tendered recently by the Wack Wack Board in his honor for his and SMC's support to the recent 86th Philippine Open. Cojuangco again expressed full support for the 87th Philippine Open in February 2002, which will also be hosted by Wack Wack. Others in photo are Wack Wack directors Ernesto G. Lim (second from left) and Edgardo S. Monzon.

Courage carried Red Bull to victory–Yeng Guiao

BY JUNE NAVARRO

CALL it chemistry, desire or any word. But the bottomline is, Batang Red Bull changed the course of history with its 4-2 conquest of San Miguel Beer on Friday for the PBA Commissioner's Cup. The win frustrated the Beermen's drive for a second Grand Slam since 1989.

Red Bull Coach Yeng Guiao said they won "because of courage."

"People say that championships are won because of the team's desire to win," said Guia, who won his third PBA title. "Not in our case. Courage is a more fitting word than desire."

The Thunder exploded with a closing 5-0 bomb to defeat the Beermen, 75-69, behind the guns of Davonn Harp, Ato Agustin and Antonio Lang and the defensive gems of Junthy Valenzuela.

Guiao, whose last PBA crown came in 1993 as coach of the Swift Mighty Meat, said nothing much had been really expected of the Thunder before the start of the best-of-seven series. He said his team was young and had no championship experience.

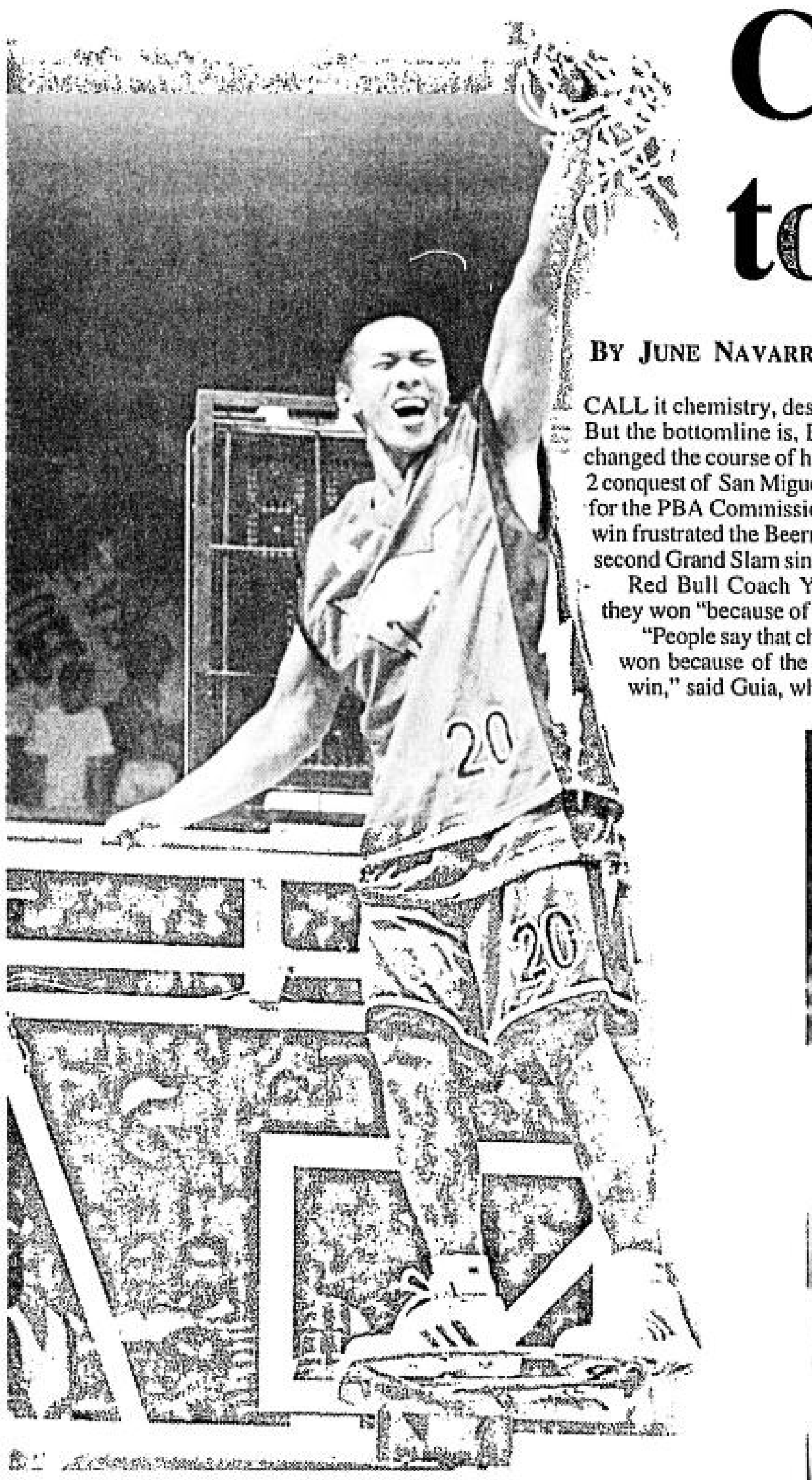
"So it's not hunger for a championship ring," he said of his team of barely two years. "We just fought our way from the start of the conference, battled through the playoffs and were surprised to see ourselves in the Finals. That alone was achievement enough."

In destroying San Miguel's Grand Slam bid, the Thunder became the youngest expansion team to win a PBA title. The just-ended series was only their fifth conference since joining the league last year.

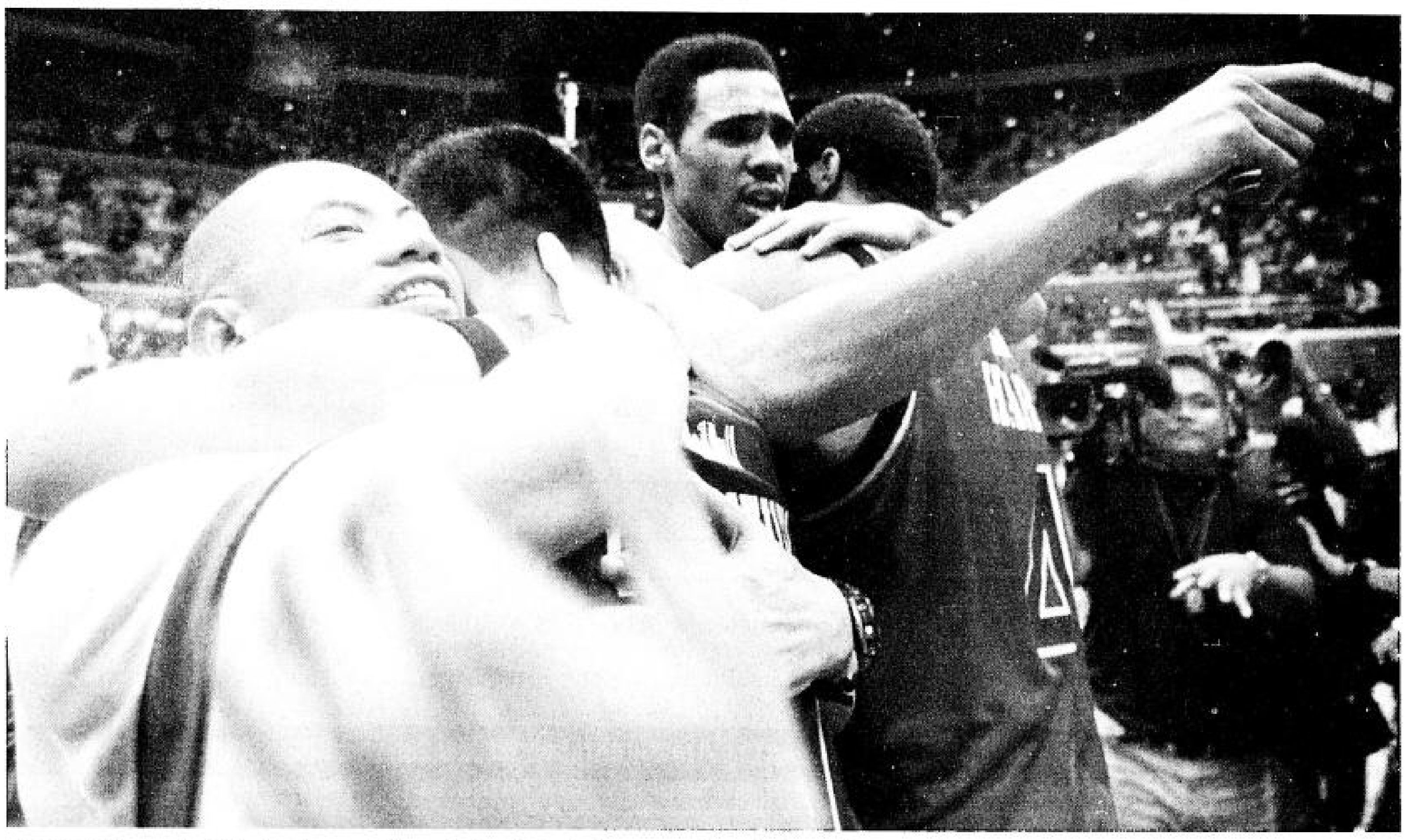
Guiao said he had rehired Ray Tutt as their import in the Governor's Cup set to begin on Sept. 9. The flamboyant Tutt gave the Thunder their first taste of playoff experience, which ended in a third-place finish.

"He (Tutt) started our winning tradition. He took us to the semis and that's where we started thinking that we are capable of winning," said Guiao. Guiao said he foresees a "great rivalry" between Red Bull and San Miguel.

"I cannot say we're destined to win, or another dynasty is in the making," said Guiao. "San Miguel is a great organization with a championship tradition. They will surely seek revenge in the coming conference and I think it's going to be a great rivalry." Judging by the crowd turnout, Guiao could be right. For starters, gate receipts had been repeatedly broken.



BATANG Red Bull rules as typified here by defender Edmund Reyes, standing atop the ring amid the victory celebration. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO



FEELING heavenly is Red Bull coach Yeng Guiao (left, facing camera) as he hugs Junthy Valenzuela, while a teary-eyed Tony Lang shares a victorious moment with Davonn Harp. ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

NCAA Today

(Rizal Memorial Coliseum)
9 a.m.—Perpetual vs St. Benilde (jrs/srs)
12:30 p.m.—Mapua vs San Beda (jrs/srs)

Environment thrust of outdoor sports show

THE PHILIPPINE'S first outdoor sports and travel adventure exhibition dubbed "Outdoor Sports Show 2001" will be held on Oct. 18-21 at the Megatrade Hall of SM Megamall B, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City.

Organized by TradeShow International Inc., no other exhibition in the country features a comprehensive coverage on serving the needs of the outdoor enthusiast.

It is the ultimate marketplace for the outdoor lifestyle movement from adventure sports to travel industries.

In just one venue, companies can sell their products and services to the outdoor aficionado and establish networks with new and existing dealers.

The Outdoor Sports Show 2001 is also an "ecosystem friendly" show and is envisioned as the melting pot for the exchange of vital information for the preservation of our environment.

Some of the interesting exhibition categories that will be featured in the show are mountain biking, canoeing, rock climbing, bird watching, cycling, parasailing, surf boarding and windsurfing.

Mass, lunch with Jinggoy preceded Knights' triumph

BY ROY LUARCA

AFTER hearing a Mass, a get-together lunch and words of inspiration minutes before Game Four, the Andok's-San Juan Knights felt the MBA First Phase title was there for the picking.

They even had lunch with their benefactor, former San Juan mayor Jinggoy Estrada, before going to war.

Well, they did wind up champions—but not after struggling past the Negros Slashers.

Fact is, the Slashers gave them hell for 38 minutes Friday evening before Chito Victolero restored order by steering the Knights to safer waters.

When Victolero's demolition job was over, the Slashers lay battered, 103-90, and the Knights were champions again. They also ruled the 2000 first conference before finishing the season as national titlists, also at the expense of the Slashers. Everything was easy from there for the Knights.

This year, however, the Knights had to work doubly hard to reach the top.

First, they needed to beat the FedEx Laguna Lakers in sudden death to advance to the semifinal round.

Second, they took the high road before subduing the LBC Batangas Blades in Lipa City in the deciding Game Three to force the title showdown with the Slashers.

And third, the Slashers gained the homecourt advantage in the best-of-five finals.

True to their fearsome form at home, the Slashers dumped the Knights, 93-75, in Game One at the University of St. La Salle Gym in Bacolod City. It was Negros' seventh straight win at home.

The law of averages finally caught up with the Slashers in Game Two, however, and the Knights exploited this to tally an 86-70 victory.

By then, San Juan coach Philip Cezar felt that momentum had swung in their favor.

SAN JUAN
CHAMP

ANDOK'S-San Juan team owner Sandy Javier, flanked by Omanzie Rodriguez (left) and Rafi Reavis, raises his arm in triumph after the Knights won the MBA First Phase with a 103-90 victory over the Negros Slashers on Friday at the San Juan Gym.

Deeper meaning of Red Bull's win

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

IN the end, it became a battle of imports. In the end, it became a battle of endgame survival. And yes, in the end, it became a battle of coaches.

Red Bull won the PBA Commissioner's Cup, 4 games to 2, two wet evenings ago. That left San Miguel Beer holding an empty bag bought to stuff in what would have been a second Grand Slam in 12 years for the original franchise in this 26th season of Asia's first professional basketball league.

Deliver the eulogy later. First, unfurl the death certificate.

The import factor surfaced in Game 5. In that game, San Miguel Beer's Nate Johnson scored a triple-powered 42 points. Red Bull's Antonio Lang had only 4 points. And yet, Red Bull won, 79-77.

Red Bull stole it because it had mastered the art of thievery. In the series just ended, the Thunder thrived in endgame survival just as the Green Berets were masters of jungle survival. Games 1 and 2 were testaments to that. Game 1 went 80-78 for Red Bull. Game 2 ended at 92-86, Red Bull. The close wins spoke volumes of mystery, if not myth.

Wasn't Red Bull supposed to be the novice? How come it had outsmarted San Miguel Beer, the acknowledged leader of the band, the winner of five of six titles it had tried winning the past two seasons?

Fact is dead. Fiction is alive.

■

In Game 5, Coach Yeng Guiao didn't sulk when Lang balked. He benched his import for his unDuke-like performance. Only an insane coach would do that. A cardinal sin in title playoffs.

But Yeng Guiao is no stranger to insanity.

First, he had given Junthy Valenzuela the license to shoot from afar in Game 1. Junthy responded with 7 triples.

Second, he unleashed Lordy Tugade in Game 6. The kid from Alaminos, Pangasinan, fired 3 killer threes, amusing Arnold "Galing Ba?" Galimba no end.

Third, he ordered Davonn Harp to put the cuffs on Nate Johnson in Game 6. From Game 5's career-best 42 points, Johnson was down to a career-low 7 points in Game 6. In case you missed it, Harp was mostly warden to Danny Ildefonso in the series. Like Lang, Ildefonso, the SMB hotshot, starved to 4 points in Game 5. Ildefonso recovered his poise somewhat in Game 6 with 17, although in the end, they became mere statistics. For, how explain that funereal silence in the four-minute mark of Game 6, when Ildefonso and Danny Seigle, SMB's main men, went scoreless together with the entire Beerman lineup?

Defense did it, as when Junthy Valenzuela blocked Seigle's tying triple with 1:16 to go, Red Bull up, 72-69. And then Junthy next saved a loose ball after a rebound swipe by 6-foot-9 Mick Pennisi, Yeng Guiao's centurion off the paint who earned some more plaudits this evening for shooting some treys in one stretch.

■

Suddenly, it became a case of almost everything falling into place for Red Bull and of almost everything disintegrating bizarrely for San Miguel Beer.

Sample: While Johnson was in the dumps in Game 6, Lang climbed out of the pits like Lazarus risen from the dead. Lang finished with a game-high 26 to quickly recapture the adulation he lost, albeit momentarily, in Game 5.

Another sample: While Yeng Guiao lost Game 3 because Kerby Raymundo was thrown out for a punching foul, Yeng Guiao lost yet another player when Junthy Valenzuela was ejected for sticking an elbow in Game 4. One player gone in Game 3, two players absent in Game 4. Result: Red Bull lost both games as San Miguel levelled it to 2-2.

With a complete lineup in Games 5 and 6, Red Bull was back to its methodical rotation and went on to duplicate its victories in Games 1 and 2 to clinch its first title in two years.

Now the eulogy and after that, start singing paeans for Yeng Guiao.

As postcript, the series was also a battle to save the PBA's credibility. For, in the end, there was no script for a Game 7 to ensue, as the league's dark forces would want us, again, to believe. If ever there was one, Batang Red Bull destroyed that with Yeng Guiao's cunning. Red Bull's chief *bata* deserves more than praise. He killed not only a league evil.

By beating San Miguel, he also crushed an empire in the making.

4 on 4 soccer finals today

THE COUNTRY'S premier 4 on 4 soccer teams collide as the inaugural Lipovitan 4 on 4 soccer campus tour national soccer finals concludes today at the Powerplant Mall, Rockwell, in Makati City.

Organized by Pro-Aide and sponsored by Taisho Pharmaceuticals, maker of Lipovitan Energy Drink, the national finals actually started with the eliminations yesterday among the finalists, which survived rigid eliminations held in various campuses.

Mizuno is the official outfitter of the widely successful event with YKL as official film. Other sponsors are Magic 89.9, Excel Press, Lakbay Sandals and Powerplant Mall.

"I wish to thank Lipovitan and the other sponsors for their unqualified support for the development of football in the country. This inaugural tournament is a boost for the country's talented and youthful players," said official Dexter Araquel.

The latest additions were Don Bosco Technical Institute-Tarlac and Don Bosco Academy, which topped the Central Luzon eliminations.

Jayson Cotaco, Marc Coloma, Erwin Ilagan, Joseph Lising and Reginald Villa powered Don Bosco-Tarlac to victory, while John Dizon, Oliver Egonio, John Mercado, Jonel Sabado and Reginald Villa starrred for Don Bosco Academy of Pampanga.

Vying for the prestigious title in the Lipovitan XL men's division are UP Los Baños, representing Laguna, Ateneo Graduate School of Business, Rizal Technological University, University of the Philippines, University of Santo Tomas, College of St. Benilde and Don Bosco Center of Studies.

Colegio San Agustin, Savio Youth Center, University of the Philippines, University of Santo Tomas and College of St. Benilde are favored to sizzle in the women's IRA division, while two Don Bosco teams and Ateneo de Manila are picked in the high school event.

Hermoso captures Toyota Cup

ROSARIO, Batangas—Roland Hermoso of Standard Insurance-KACE-Toyota Alabang-Petron redeemed himself from a lackluster performance the previous month to rule the seventh and eight rounds of the Formula Toyota Cup before a big weekend crowd at the Batangas Racing Circuit.

Hermoso, who was eased out of the lead by Enzo Pastor of Team TEC-Shell Racing in the fifth and sixth rounds, recovered his bearing to complete his second sweep in this annual series organized by the Batangas Racing Circuit Association (BRCA) and sponsored by Shell, Toyota, Norkis-Yamaha, Kilton Motors, Marlboro, Casino Filipino, Llumar, CGU Insurance, Philippine Internet Directory and MOF Company. Hermoso also swept the opening two rounds.

Overall, Hermoso wrested the lead with an eight-round aggregate of 119 points, only four points ahead of Pastor with still four rounds remaining.

A far third is Kirk Arambulo of Kart 1 Racing with 81 points.

Hermoso's teammate, J.P. Tuason, finished second twice to complete an impressive 1-2 finish for Standard Insurance-KACE-Toyota Alabang-Petron drivers.

Subic hosts Petron Grand Prix

DESPITE the unpredictable weather, the Petron Grand Prix resumes with the pivotal 11th and 12th rounds today at the soon-to-be-renovated Subic International Raceway in Olongapo City.

Ferdinand Ong, Monching Gutierrez, Carlos Anton and Menchie Francisco seek all important wins to formalize their claim to the overall title in their respective categories in this annual series organized by Sports Values Inc. (SVI) and sponsored by Petron Corp.

Ong, who bungled a chance to win the title outright with back-to-back losses in the previous leg last July 8, will try to move closer to the overall title in the centerpiece Blaze super saloon category.

Ong, a mainstay of Rota-Speedwelle-Outlast Battery, has a 10-round total of 60 points based on the 10-6-4-3-2 scoring system by SVI.

A win in one of two races will enable Ong to widen his 15-point lead over Kookie Ramirez of Petron-SRA going into the final two rounds on Sept. 2.

But Ramirez of Petron-SRA and Nilo Pazcoguin of Caltex-Team Tom's are expected to put their best foot forward to frustrate Ong and keep their own hopes for the title alive.

Ramirez, one of four sons of race legend Pocholo Ramirez, is second overall with 45 points, while Pazcoguin is third with 41 points.

The rest of the participants are too far behind in the overall standings to pose a threat to Ong.

Gutierrez will also gun for the title in the SVI Challenge Cup against Tom Pastor, Mike Francisco, Mon Lindo and Alex Padua.

A18

Moroccan sets world mark

BRUSSELS, Belgium—Morocco's Brahim Boulami set a world record in the steeplechase at the Van Damme Memorial on Friday. Boulami broke the Kenyan stranglehold on the steeplechase, taking the lead with one kilometer to go to finish in 7 minutes 55.28 seconds. The time beat the Kenyan Bernard Barmasai's four-year-old mark of 7:55.72. *AP*

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
SundaySPORTS
AL S. MENDOZA, Editor ▪ EDWIN M. VILLANUEVA, Assistant Editor

How Batang Red Bull, Andok's-San Juan became champions

We'll pay for their plane fare, says Juico

Case of La Salle's Cardona heats up

BY DENNIS U. EROA

CARDONA

FANS of "four-peat-" seeking La Salle need not worry. Rookie-sensation Mark Cardona of defending champion La Salle can continue his high-octane shows in the ongoing UAAP men's basketball wars.

Speaking in behalf of La Salle alumni, Philip Ella Juico, former chair of the Philippine Sports Commission and now a ranking officer of the IBC 13, said yesterday there was no reason for Cardona not to play today against University of the Philippines. Juico also hurled a challenge to this year's UAAP President Anton Montinola and the all-powerful board, who questioned Cardona's status..

Earlier in a press conference at the Mario's Restaurant in Quezon City, Montinola of host Far Eastern University said the board will directly check Cardona's academic records at the Carson High in San Francisco, California.

"We're willing to pay for the plane tickets of the board representative to Carson City to settle this issue once and for all," Juico told the INQUIRER following an emergency alumni meeting yesterday at the Rockwell in Makati City.

Danny Jose and Olympian Ramoncito Campos, La Salle's representatives to the board composed of all the member schools, also welcomed the move and expressed confidence that doubts on Cardona's eligibility will finally be put to rest.

"We have nothing to hide. As far as we're concerned, Cardona's eligible to play. We didn't falsify Cardona's records and we're not going to lie and prejudice La Salle," said Jose. He added that Cardona will continue to don the Green Archers colors in the ongoing tournament.

Jose said La Salle had already submitted all the pertinent papers regarding Cardona.

"The official records of Cardona will show that for the past five years. he has studied abroad in Carson City High for a total of two years and three months only, having left the US in December 1998 for the Philippines," Jose said.

UST shocks Ateneo

GAMES TODAY *(Loyola Gym)*
2 p.m.—UP vs La Salle
4 p.m.—FEU vs UE

BY DENNIS EROA

EMERSON Oreta struck a dagger to Ateneo's pride as University of Santo Tomas hacked out a stunning 62-55 victory yesterday in the UAAP men's basketball championship at the Loyola Gym.

Oreta, a talented swingman whose only drawback is his failure to add consistency to his game, scored the game's final four points as the Tigers finally snapped the Blue Eagles' seven-game winning streak, while reinforcing their Final Four drive with a 4-5 win-loss card, same slate of University of the East.

The Eagles also tasted their first loss on their homecourt.

The surprising result enabled defending champion La Salle to take

UST SHOCKS/ A16

NIIT announces IT scholarships for high school graduates of 2000 & 2001

NIIT, the largest global IT education institution, now offers full-year scholarships for an Honors Diploma in e-technology. These scholarships cover fee waivers of 100%, 75%, 50% or 25%. This is open to high school graduates of 2000 and 2001. There are 2 categories for eligibility:

CATEGORY	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA
1	-minimum gen. ave. of 80% on senior year -total household income of less than Php 30,000 per month
2	-minimum gen. ave. of 90%

NIIT
e-Scholarship

Scholarships will be awarded based on results of a nationwide written exam on September 9, 2001 and interviews. Bring 2 ID photos of any size when you get an application form at any NIIT training center. Deadline for submission is on September 7, 2001. Apply now!

The NIIT e-Scholarships are also open to currently enrolled 1st yr. & 2nd yr. college students.

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They
be
it.

Team University of the Visayas Baby Green Lancers rules Nike 3-on-3 land.

And there ain't no one that can tell different. These here are the champs, man. The land's top hoopsters who've just bagged the Nike 3-on-3 2001 crown!

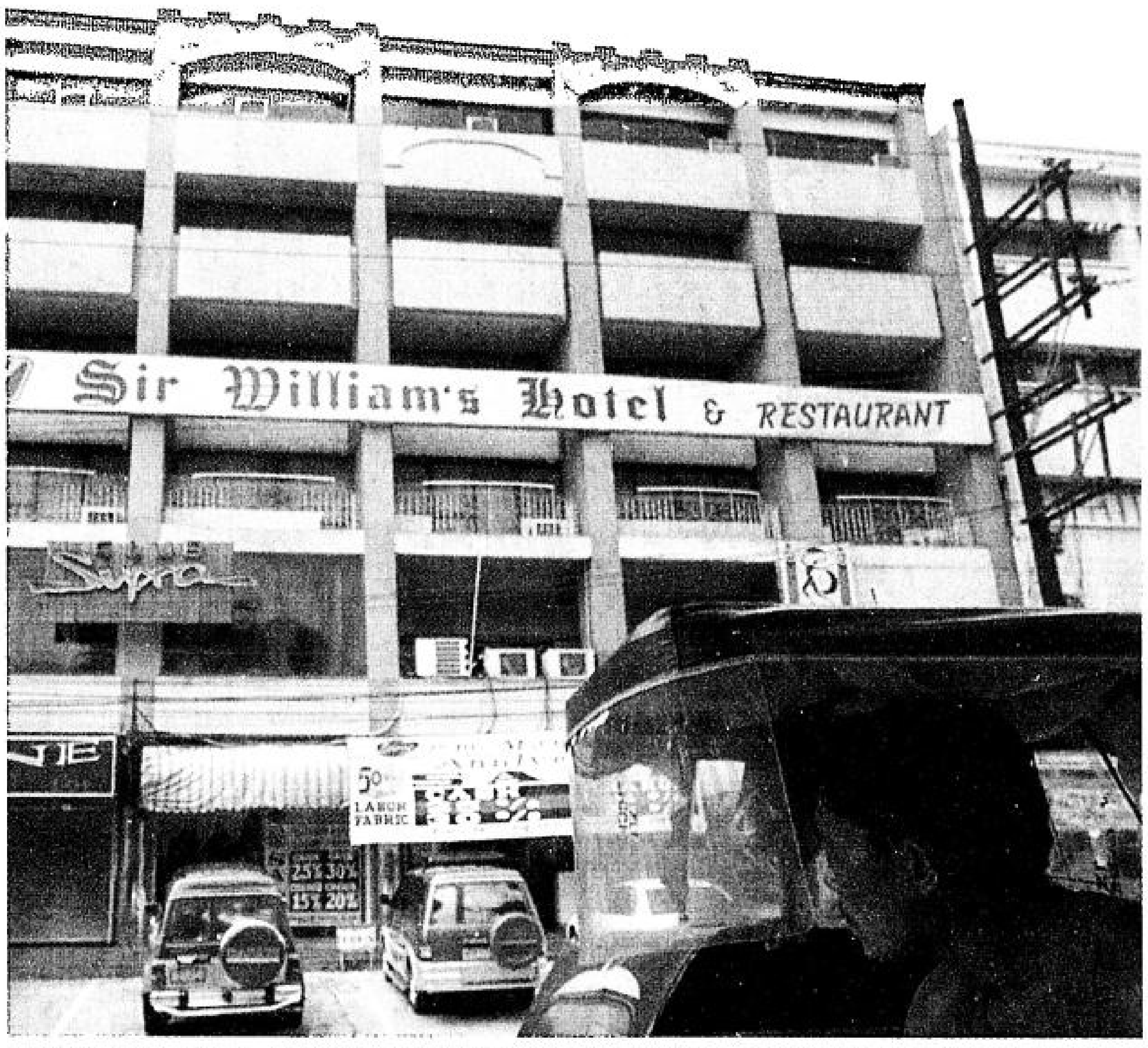
To them, our congratulations. To the rest that tried, well, there's always next year.

Conservationists expect tougher measures to preserve Mehan Garden A20

Laguna gov't steps into Perpetual row A20

2 more Genato buildings found breaking Fire Code

'Deficiencies' found in 2 QC apartelles



AND SIR WILLIAM'S, also owned by Genato in Quezon City, makes three, in addition to the three apartelles found to be violating laws on fire safety. RANDY HORMILLOSA

By Philip C. Tubeza

TWO more Quezon City buildings, reportedly owned also by Manor Hotel owner William Tan Genato, have also been found violating fire safety regulations, according to the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP).

This was revealed even as the Central Police District is set to file tomorrow before the Office of the Omubdman graft charges against at least "12 officials" of the BFP and the Quezon City government for the Manor fire that killed 75 people.

Senior Supt. Danilo Cabrera, BFP spokesman, told the Inquirer in a phone interview that BFP inspectors found "deficiencies" at the Wilbeck Apartelle in Project 4 and at the Villa Rebecca Condominium in Tandang Sora, both in Quezon City.

Genato is said to be owner of both buildings. His wife is named Rebecca.

But Cabrera refused to say what "deficiencies" were found at Wilbeck and Villa Rebecca.

"We are still consulting with the Department of the Interior and Local Government on what action to take," he said. "We will divulge the violations when we get the (go-ahead) signal from the DILG."

He said the BFP is still determining if the violations could be considered to be posing "imminent danger to public safety."

BFP acting director Chief Supt. Francisco S. Senot ordered the two buildings investigated on Monday

2 MORE/ A20

'How many more lives should be wasted?'

By Andrea Trinidad-Echavez

"HOW many more lives should be wasted? How many billions more in property should be destroyed before (the government) opens its eyes to the reality that we have an ill-equipped and inefficient fire service?"

Alvin Estrada, who represents the United Fire Fighters of the Philippines (UFFP), summed up what is in the mind of people when they woke up Aug. 18 to a tragedy that could have been averted.

The hour-long fire that hit the Quezon City Manor Hotel on Kamias Road last week claimed the lives of at least 62 hotel guests. Twelve more of the scores who were injured later died, bringing the total number of casualties to 74.

Only about 70 people managed to leave the burning hotel unscathed.

In terms of property damage, fire was found to be more devastating than all the combined natural calamities that had hit the country over the last five years. These include drought, El Niño, La Niña, typhoons, earthquakes and volcanic eruptions, among others.

About P15 billion in property was lost to natural calamities in the last five years, but fires over the same period caused P36 billion in property damage, according to the National Disaster Coordinating Council and the Bureau of Fire Protection.

From 1995 to July this year, fire claimed the lives of 1,563 people.

That figure does not include those who died in the Manor Hotel fire.

Despite the alarming figures, the government has not given much thought to upgrading the equipment and services of the Bureau of Fire Protection.

Fire fighters are some of the most neglected of all government personnel. Yet they are thrust into every burning locality, risking their own lives to save others.

Over the years, fire fighters have been demanding from the national government more funds for the fire bureau with which to buy quality fire-fighting equipment.

But up to now, their pleas have fallen on deaf ears.

Every year, at least two government fire fighters die in the line of duty because of lack of protective gear, while an average of 50 others are injured in emergencies.

Last year alone, BFP statistics showed that at least six firemen died while fighting fires.

HOW/ A20

Small turns out to be big for printing press worker

By Cecille G. Garcia

TALES OF THE CITY

FOR A long time, Eddie Morada believed that the greener pastures he was seeking were on distant shores. He was convinced only a job overseas could give his family financial security and a better future.

Morada is now an off-set operator at Gerpress Printing on Katipunan Road in Quezon City. Gerpress is a small printing company and Morada is one of only three employees. After five years, Morada is certain he has found his niche.

Morada is a 49-year-old Bicolano who never finished high school because his father, a poor farmer, could not afford to send his children to school. Because of his inadequate education, Morada was determined to learn at least one skill.

"I started out as a messenger and I had also been a construction worker," he says.

While he was working in a paper mill, Morada became familiar with the letterpress and discovered that he felt an affinity with printing machines.

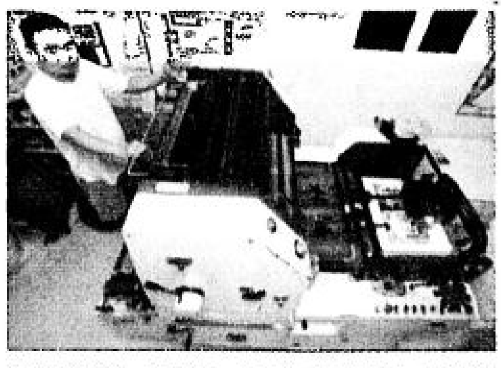
"I became interested in how they worked and how I could learn to operate them efficiently," he says. "I believe you can learn anything if there is a genuine interest."

Though he had mentors (Morada subsequently worked in a printing company), he gained mastery of printing equipment mostly through self-study and experience.

Despite his newly developed skill, luck continued to elude him. In the early '90s, he recalls, he could hardly make both ends meet and could not provide for the needs of his wife and young son and daughter. He was then working in a large printing firm.

"Though I'd been there for four years, nothing was happening," he says.

Happy months



STAYING is the best decision Eddie Morada has made. EDWIN BACASMAS

He decided to try his luck in the Middle East. He had always wanted to work overseas where he felt he stood a better chance of improving his lot in life.

In 1992, he left for Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he was able to get a contractual job in a printing company. The salary was $500 a month.

"I was very happy during the first six months. I was working overtime and there was more than enough for my family back home and for my simple needs."

After a while, however, overtime work ceased, and he realized he was not earning enough. He resorted to illegal selling of stamps to fellow Filipinos as a sideline. Still, his earnings remained insufficient. Worse, his salary from the printing company was intermittently delayed.

After two years, Morada came home for a vacation and went back to the Middle East after two months despite his uncertainty about the validity of his contract. "My employers insisted it was still valid. But I knew that at that point it was merely verbal. The contract was no longer valid."

A legal problem ensued and a case was filed against him. His employers decided to send him back to the Philippines in 1995.

SMALL/ A20

4 boys drown in floods in QC, Caloocan

By Philip C. Tubeza

LAST week's heavy monsoon rains did not only bring floods to the metropolis, they also brought sorrow and anguish to the families of four boys, aged 3 to 14 years old, who reportedly drowned in Caloocan City and Quezon City.

Ramil R. Ostia, 12, of 370 Boni Serrano St., Barangay Libis, Quezon City, drowned reportedly while swimming in the raging waters of the Marikina River on Thursday.

Ostia's bloated body was fished out of the river only yesterday morning, according to SPO1 Cresencio Bajao, of the Central Police District-Criminal Investigation Unit.

Ysmael Ponseca, 3, and Benedict Torneros, 10, both of 102 Don Antonio St., Barangay 19, Caloocan City, and Danny Boy Lopez Jr., of 212 Interior 5, Dona Rita St., also in Barangay 19, drowned in a swollen creek Friday, Caloocan police said.

The three Caloocan boys were reportedly trying to recover a ball that had fallen into the creek when they drowned.

Ostia's body was found in the Marikina River along C-5 Road at the boundary of Marikina and Quezon City.

Aside from the signs of early decomposition of his body, Ostia's body had a swollen forehead, police said.

Police said Melanio D. Golez, 42, of 217-D Concepcion St., Santolan, Pasig, saw Ostia's body floating in the river and reported it to the authorities.

Bajao said Ostia had been missing since 9 a.m. Thursday after his parents told him to fetch a pail of water from a nearby water pump.

A male witness later told police he saw some boys swimming in the part of the river where Ostia was later found, Bajao said.

But the witness could not say if Ostia was among the boys swimming, Bajao added.

The policeman said Ostia must have hit his head on a hard object when he jumped in the river.

4 BOYS/ A20

MegaMillion SWEEPSTXT 135 PLDT

Question of the Week
August 25-31

Pang-ilang babaeng presidente ng Pilipinas si Gloria Macapagal Arroyo?

1. Pang-fourteenth
2. Una
3. Pangalawa

Ang daling sumali!

To earn a raffle entry, you must answer 2 questions correctly.

1 Dial 135-1 para i-text ang sagot sa Question of the Week.*

2 Kung tama ang sagot mo, hintayin ang second question.

3 Para sagutin ang second question, ibaba ang telepono at muling i-dial ang 135-1.

4 Kung tama ang sagot mo, i-text ang pangalan at birthday.
For example:
- Name Entry: Dan Ty
Press 3 once for the letter D, press 2 once for the letter A, press 6 two times for the letter N. Press 0 for space. Press 8 once for the letter T, press 9 three times for the letter Y. Press # two times to submit your name.
- Birthday Entry: July 13, 1965
Press 07131965 to submit your birthday.

5 If you want to send more entries, dial ka uli ng 135-1 at i-text ang sagot. Entries should be sent from 6:00 am to 12:00 mn. Abangan ang resulta ng bola sa newspapers o sa mail.

Araw-araw ang bola, milyun-milyon ang pera!

* TXT 135 service must be activated to join the promo.
Call 171 for inquiries. Each text message costs only P3.00!
Promo period from August 12 to November 15, 2001.
See leaflet for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1257. Series of 2001.

PLDT
www.pldt.com.ph

Laguna gov't steps into Perpetual school row

By Romulo O. Ponte
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

CALAMBA, Laguna—The Laguna provincial government will mediate in the conflict between the administration of the Calamba branch of the University of Perpetual Help Rizal (UPHR) and the 34 suspended students, two terminated professors and several others who were injured in a recent violent dispersal of student protesters.

During the Sangguniang Panlalawigan regular session on Wednesday, over which Vice Gov. Dan Fernandez presided, the committee on education chaired by board member Benjie Agarao committed to spearhead the preparation of a board resolution to investigate the conflict.

Board member Marlon V. Mangahas endorsed in a privilege speech the grievances of the student-complainants who were accompanied by their parents and the suspended faculty members when they appeared in the Sangguniang Panlalawigan session.

Zinia Malabanan, representative of the students, told the board of their legitimate demands and their suspension.

Among the demands raised by the students in a manifesto of unity are the scrapping of the P2,500 fee for the Special Development Fund; dissolution of Filipino Christian Living 5 and 6, which are not originally included in the curriculum; and justice for those wounded in the protest dispersal on Aug. 9.

They also pressed for the dismissal of school director Rey Dalde for his allegedly corrupt and undemocratic practices.

A UPHR spokesperson, who requested anonymity, denied all the allegations of malpractice.

"The UPHR has not suspended any student and the handful of students who protested were just asked to appear in the dean's office with their parents to patch up things," the spokesperson said.

Dean of Student Affairs Dr. Bona Mae Tiongson told the INQUIRER that innocent students and UPHR employees were injured during the violent confrontation between the students and the security guards.

Student representative Malabanan said that without giving them a written notice of suspension, at least 34 of them were simply being prevented from entering the school campus.

The university spokesperson denied having knowledge that school authorities had asked the security guards to prevent students from attending their classes.

Noli Alcasabas, one of the faculty members who supported the students' protest, said the school terminated his services without a written notice.

"Out of the 78 faculty members, the university only has had two regulars since 1997," he said. "The director usually kicks out faculty members arbitrarily, through verbal announcements and without due process."

The UPHR spokesperson denied these allegations, saying the university has a policy of requiring professors to undergo at least three years of further studies before they could be considered for regular employment.

Those who don't take further studies are considered on probation.

Conservationists expect tougher measures to preserve Mehan Garden

By Jerome Aning

CONSERVATIONISTS yesterday said they expect the Department of Natural Resources and Environment to enforce tougher measures to make sure that no construction projects will ever disturb the historic Mehan Garden.

This came after the DENR on Friday fined a company for continuing to build a two-story parking facility in the southern portion of the Mehan despite a cease-and-desist order (CDO) issued by the DENR.

In a phone interview, Tina Testa, a Manila-based conservationist and historical researcher, said she lauds the DENR move but she expects Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez to take tougher action to make sure the construction is stopped permanently.

Options to implement the CDO range from larger fines and more legal action, to employment of police power.

Through the National Historical Institute, conservationists have been urging the DENR to order the dismantling of the parking facility, which is being constructed by the Makati City-based Park N Ride Inc.

Two weeks ago, the DENR issued the CDO after finding out that Park N Ride failed to obtain a permission from the NHI before applying for an environmental compliance certificate and starting construction.

Without the written permission from the NHI chair, no person or entity could destroy, alter or even repair historical shrines, monuments, landmarks and other edifices, as provided by presidential decrees No. 250 and 1505.

Testa said that during a hearing at the DENR office on Aug. 10, one of the firm's incorporators, Estelita Javier, said the parking facility was also intended for "southbound" provincial buses.

The plan, Testa said, is contrary to the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority's recent decision to remove all provincial bus terminals from urban centers and relocate them in the outskirts of the metropolis.

THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, August 26, 2001
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

1st Reading: **Is 66:18-21**

The Lord says this, "Now I am going to gather the nations of every tongue, and they will witness my glory, for I will perform a wonderful thing among them. Then I will send some of their survivors to the nations—Tarshish, Put, Lud, Moscheck, Rosh, Tubal, and Javan to the distant islands where no one has ever heard of me or seen my glory. They will proclaim my glory among the nations. They will bring your brothers from all the nations as an offering to Yahweh on horses, in chariots, in litters, on mules, on camels to my holy mountain in Jerusalem, says Yahweh, just as the Israelites bring oblations in clean vessels to the house of Yahweh. Then I will choose priests and Levites even from them, says Yahweh.

2nd Reading: **Heb 12:5-7, 11-13**

Do not forget the comforting words that Wisdom addresses to you as children: *My son, pay attention when the Lord corrects you and do not be discouraged when he punishes you. For the Lord corrects those he loves and chastises everyone he accepts as a son.*

What you endure is in order to correct you. God treats you like sons and what son is not corrected by his father? All correction is painful at the moment, rather than pleasant; later it brings the fruit of peace, that is, holiness to those who have been trained by it.

Lift up, then, your drooping hands, and strengthen your trembling knees; make level the ways for your feet, so that the lame may not be disabled, but healed.

Gospel: **Lk 13:22-30**

Jesus went through towns and villages teaching and making his way to Jerusalem. Someone asked him, "Lord, is it true that few people will be saved?"

And Jesus answered, "Do your best to enter by the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will try to enter and will not be able. When once the master of the house has got up and locked the door, you will stand outside; then you will knock at the door calling: 'Lord, open to us.' But he will say to you: 'I do not know where you come from.'

Then you will say: We ate and drank with you and you taught in our streets! But he will reply: 'I don't know where you come from. *Away from me all you workers of evil.*'

You will weep and grind your teeth when you see Abraham and Jacob and all the prophets in the kingdom of God, and you yourselves left outside. Others will sit at table in the kingdom of God, people coming from east and west, from north and south. Some who are among the last will be the first, and others who were first will be last!"

Commentary

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus explains to the people the meaning of salvation and the purpose of life. Life here is portrayed as a journey to the house of the Father. For all on the journey the moment of arrival will come. The point of the story is that only those whose journey is approved by the Father will be welcome. The journey is a process of learning and growth in justice. Arguments claiming to have attended liturgical celebrations with the Lord and to have listened to his teachings are not enough for admittance. More than that will be needed to qualify for the right of entry. Only those who brought justice into practice will be recognized as members of the house and will find the door open.

Father, we thank you for having invited us to your home. Grant that we may become worthy to enter it as your beloved children.

Claretian Publications Inc., 8 Mayumi St., UP Village, Diliman, Quezon City, UP P.O. Box 4, Diliman, 1101 Quezon City; Tel.: 921-3984; Fax: 921-7429; E-mail: claret@cnl.net; Websites:http://www.bible.claret.org (Claretian Publications Inc.) & http://missionaries.claret.org (Claretians in the Philippines)

SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (CRIMINAL PROCEDURE)—Qualifying circumstance must be alleged in the Information—Knowledge of the offender of the mental disability of the victim at the time of the commission of the crime of rape qualifies the crime and makes it punishable by death under Article 266-B, paragraph 10 of the Revised Penal Code, as amended by R.A. 8353. An allegation in the information of such knowledge of the offender is necessary as a crime can only be qualified by circumstances pleaded in the indictment. A contrary ruling would result to a denial of the right of the accused to be informed of the charges against him, and hence a denial of due process. In the case before us, there was no allegation in the information that the accused had knowledge of the mental disability of the victim at the time rape was committed. Thus, notwithstanding proof of such knowledge, the accused can only be held liable for simple rape. Qualifying circumstances not alleged in the information but duly proven without objection during the trial may be considered as aggravating circumstances. However, in this case, knowledge of the accused of the mental retardation of the victim at the time of the commission of the crime of rape does not fall under any of the aggravating circumstances enumerated in Article 14 of the Revised Penal Code, and hence cannot be appreciated as such. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Gonzaga-Reyes, Third Division, People v. Mugabo, G.R. No. 139471, January 23, 2001]

Digest by R.B. Vera

HOUSE LADIES AND A GENTLEMAN
The newly sworn in officers and members of the group called Lady Legislators of the 12th Congress, headed by Las Piñas Rep. Cynthia A. Villar, pay a courtesy call on Speaker Jose de Venecia Jr. The women lawmakers vowed to pursue legislation that is pro-women, pro-youth and pro-family.

Robbery suspect shot dead outside bank

AN UNIDENTIFIED Batang City Jail member and suspected robber was killed in a shootout Friday afternoon after members of the Central Police District (CPD) chanced upon him and two other men allegedly trying to rob a businesswoman outside a Quezon City bank.

Zenaida Bantogan had just withdrawn money from the Banco De Oro branch in Baesa, Quezon City when the three armed men held her up, the CPD-Criminal Investigation Unit said yesterday.

Bantogan was driving her car along Quirino Avenue when the three men, who were on board a motorcycle, held her up around 1:30 p.m., police said.

The men blocked her path, forcing her to stop, and announced the holdup.

Luckily, SPO1 Sotero Basilio and PO1 Dino Portillo of the Sangandaan police station were patrolling in the area on board a Mazda 323. They drove up to Bantogan's car when they noticed the armed men blocking her way.

But the suspects, apparently sensing that the two were policemen, allegedly fired at the Mazda 323, but they missed.

The lawmen fired back and hit one of the men in several parts of the body and died on the spot on Virginia Drive in Jordan Valley Subdivision.

The dead man's companions boarded their motorcycle and escaped.

The policemen said they recovered at the scene a German Luger and several .9 mm. bullets.

The slain suspect's body, which had a BCJ tattoo on the buttocks, was brought to the Philippine National Crime Laboratory for autopsy.

Philip C. Tubeza

'How many more lives . . .

(From page A19)

BFP's budget for the 2000 was a little less than P3 billion—not enough to buy the necessary equipment, let alone fire trucks.

Sharing equipment

Since the early 1990s, the government has not amply provided firemen even the most basic protective equipment—fire coats, boots, helmets, gloves, and the much needed breathing apparatus.

Worse, the country's 13,500 government fire fighters have to share 5,489 fire coats, 5,196 pairs of boots and 6,480 helmets. Also, most of the equipment is damaged or just plain old to be useful.

In the United States, fire fighters are not allowed to conduct operations without wearing the proper gear, which includes breathing apparatus.

American fire fighters always carry with them two-way radios and personal alert safety systems (PASS), which monitor their movements and make it easier for them to seek reinforcements in case of emergency.

Unfortunately in the Philippines, fire fighters tend to do their jobs with incomplete or damaged equipment, and are armed only with "guts, insight and a healthy pair of lungs."

The UFFP condemns government's neglect of an institution tasked to protect 75 million Filipinos from fire. It has been urging government to take a serious look into the fire-fighting capacity of the BFP.

More to come

Even before the 1996 Ozone Disco fire, where more than 150 people died, the UFFP has been going around the country conducting fire safety seminars.

After the Ozone tragedy, the group warned of more to come given the bureau's meager resources not only in equipment but also in personnel.

UFFP has called the attention of the Senate and sought for a probe on the rueful state of the country's fire service.

"But no appropriate action has yet been taken," Estrada said.

"The national government may not have realized how fire incidents affect the economy," he said. "Billions of pesos in property and thousands of lives are lost as a result of government neglect."

Fire safety, he pointed out, is one of the pillars of public safety that must not be taken for granted.

Two years after the Ozone tragedy, two big fires hit Metro Manila—the Lung Center where 19 died and the Fundacion de Damas de Filipinas where 23 hapless children and four adults burned to death.

What could have been

Estrada said that had government acted on their request to augment the bureau's fire-fighting equipment, more lives could have been saved.

Bemedalled fire fighter SFO1 Severino de Ungria remarked that though people could not stop these catastrophic incidents from happening, its impact could be greatly minimized with enough equipment.

"But with our inadequacy, we can only pray for people to be more conscious in preventing fires," De Ungria said.

The fire fighter admitted that he had several brushes with death because he simply lacked the proper gear.

Most firemen interviewed by the INQUIRER admitted to feeling depressed, disturbed and frustrated, whenever people die in a fire. They say that their foremost goal is to save lives and minimize destruction to property.

"It pains us to see people die, especially because we know we could have saved them if only we have adequate equipment," De Ungria said.

For instance, UFFP's Estrada pointed out that in the Manor Hotel fire, had the fire bureau been equipped with enough basic equipment like forcible entry tools, smoke ejectors, fire hoses and nozzles, more people could have been saved.

The same was true for the Lung Center fire, he added.

Brave men

Survivors and witnesses in the Manor fire said that because of the thick smoke and lack of breathing apparatus, many fire fighters almost suffocated.

Pastor Faith Reyes, one of the first people who came to Manor to assist the victims, commended the fire fighters for "their bravery."

"These firemen should be given a pat on the back," said Reyes, who lost 10 of his closest pastor-friends in the fire. "I saw how many of them almost suffocated and yet they still went on to save more lives."

But according to some business establishment owners interviewed by the INQUIRER, BFP officials and even some fire fighters may also be at fault for the bureau's plight.

One businessman, who wished to remain anonymous, said unscrupulous fire inspectors would, for a certain sum, allow some establishment owners to get away with non-compliance with fire safety measures, like water sprinklers or fire extinguishers, automatic alarm systems or smoke detector devices and adequate fire exits.

Serious violations

Under the Fire Code of the Philippines, all buildings, whether residential or commercial, must strictly comply with fire safety measures before owners could be issued fire safety certificates and business permits.

"They are therefore not only risking the safety of the occupants in those buildings but also those of nearby buildings, who may be religiously following the required safety measures," the businessman said.

Even Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte believed that had the fire bureau been more diligent in its job, the Manor Hotel fire could have been averted.

Small turns out to be big for printing press . . .

(From page A19)

This turned out to be a blessing. He soon found a job with a medium-sized printing firm. "But I did not last because I did not like the way it was managed."

In his heart, Morada admits, he continued to nurse hopes of going back abroad where he felt eventual success awaited him. Meanwhile, he needed a job very badly.

In 1996, he applied at Gerpress Printing in response to a published newspaper ad. He did not go back after the initial interview with the owners because he was not familiar with the printing equipment. But the owners, who immediately liked him, sent him a telegram asking him to give the job a try.

He did. Three months later he was given an increase and was made permanent.

Morada was content. His employers were kind not only to him but to his family as well. "They even paid for the hernia operation of my daughter," he says.

Unknown to his employers, however, Morada was awaiting the result of his application for another job in the Middle East. "I still wanted to work abroad. But at the same time I never stopped praying for the Lord's guidance. I wanted to do the right thing and what was good for my family."

Great faith

Morada, formerly Catholic, is a Born Again Christian. He was converted while he was in Riyadh. "I'm very prayerful in my own way," he says. "I have great faith."

When the agency finally confirmed that it had found a job for him, Morada was seriously having second thoughts. "I was afraid I'd be arrested because of the unfinished case," he says. He had other misgivings as well. He decided to stay.

"It's the best decision I've ever made," he says. True enough, good things have been happening to him since. Aside from annual increases, his employers provide educational assistance for his two children.

"Actually, I'm earning more than my former colleagues at the printing company I worked for before I went to Riyadh, and they've been with the company for 10 years."

He has also realized the advantages of working in a small company. There is less intrigue, he says, less pressure from your co-workers productivity-wise. "You perform better."

Though some may argue that there is more stability in a large company, Morada contends that you tend to get lost in a corporate set-up. "You're just another number, a statistic."

Besides, he avers that Gepress, though small, gives full benefits to its employees.

Perfect

His bosses say Morada is a perfect employee. Hard-working, honest and goal-oriented, he makes it a point to accomplish as much as he can within a working day. Unlike others before him, he does not "cheat" in order to have to do overtime and thus get double pay.

"But he'd work seven days a week if necessary," says his woman employer. "On our part we would not hesitate to double his salary."

Morada feels he has been incredibly lucky. Not only is he earning enough, he also manages to put some money away, "unlike my father who worked hard all his life."

"I can send my children to school and also provide them with extras such as eating out once in a while," he adds.

He feels he's too old for dreams. "But I have dreams for my children. I would like them to finish their studies and to try to make something of themselves."

And he believes it is possible to do it in his own country. "Life here is better than life in the Middle East, in Riyadh."

He says that if he could do it all over again, he would choose to stay. In fact, he would advise others who are seeking greener pastures abroad to be a little more patient, to try a little harder. Because they, too, could end up as lucky and as blessed as he is.

2 more Genato . . .

(From page A19)

after the DILG closed down Sir William's Hotel on Timog Avenue, also in Quezon City, after inspectors found that it had violated more safety regulations than Manor Hotel did.

Genato also reportedly owns Sir William's.

Cabrera said the BFP has submitted the names of six BFP officials who were allegedly negligent in making sure that the Manor Hotel was safe.

"More names could be added to the list," Cabrera said. "It depends on the DILG, which is still conducting its own investigation."

But a police source at the CPD said at least 12 officials from the BFP and the Quezon City government would be charged with graft before the Ombudsman tomorrow.

Besides the BFP officials, former officials of the Quezon City's engineer's office and license and permits bureau would also be charged with "reckless imprudence resulting in multiple homicide and serious physical injuries in relation to graft and corrupt practices involved in operations and licensing process anomalies."

Quezon City Mayor Feliciano Belmonte had sacked eight officials from the city's business permits and licensing office and the city engineer's Office.

4 boys . . .

(From page A19)

"Unlike other drowning victims, his stomach was not swollen," the policeman pointed out. "It was his head that was swollen.

"His head must have hit a rock or some other hard object and he lost consciousness. The river's strong currents then carried him away."

The three other boys were playing ball in the rain around 4 p.m. Friday on Don Antonio Street in Barangay 19 in Caloocan when tragedy struck.

The ball fell into the creek along the street and the boys tried to retrieve it. But the boys lost their balance while trying to reach for the ball and they all fell in.

The creek's strong currents also carried them away. Rescuers found the bodies of Ponseca and Torneros in the Benito Creek around 10:45 p.m., or more than six hours after they fell in, police said.

But Lopez was still missing as of yesterday afternoon, police added.

Hard times and additional taxes bring show biz people together

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

CHAN. Holds a one-night concert at Westin

DESPITE the slump in movies, it's good to note that members of the entertainment industry can unite in times of crisis.

When news came out that entertainers would have to pay 20 percent tax starting Sept. 1, actors, producers, directors and talent managers banded together to protest the increase.

Early this week, the Alliance of Concerned Entertainers (ACE) was formed to rally against the government's plan to impose additional tax on show biz stars.

Those in the higher income bracket will definitely not be affected—the TV hosts, singers, leading ladies and leading men who get stratospheric fees, and who submit 32 percent of their income to the government.

They don't worry about where the next check will come from because they have contracts with networks and film companies. They rely on regular income, which is usually a seven-digit sum.

Those who will feel the pinch are the ones who get contractual jobs to guest in TV shows, do occasional live performances or bit parts in movies.

They are the character actors, bit players, singers and comedians who rely on occasional film projects, singing engagements and live performances to make both ends meet. For them, an additional 10 percent tax means a lot, on top of the 10 percent that is already being deducted from their earnings.

For instance, a character actor like **John Regala** gets P20,000 for every day that he shoots a movie. The 20 percent tax would mean P4,000 easily slashed from his talent fee.

And if he still has to share a percentage of his income with a talent manager, that means another 20 percent off from his take-home pay.

Unless he has other film projects, Regala has to make do with whatever remains of the original amount, which he has to stretch to several weeks until the next paycheck comes.

It is understandable why ACE is opposing the 20 percent tax. Many people in the industry are bound to lose their jobs since producers will have to resort to cost-cutting measures after the tax increase.

Last Friday, ACE members demonstrated at the Department of Finance to protest the tax increase. On Tuesday, the group will submit a petition to explain the entertainer's side, in the hope that by Sept. 1, the tax increase will be stopped.

It is heartwarming to see producers, directors and talent managers being concerned with the welfare of the smaller show biz stars.

Even theater people have joined the coalition to sympathize with the industry members who will be greatly affected by the increase.

For every superstar who earns millions, there are nearly a hundred supporting players. We hope the big stars can sympathize with the other industry members who are not always as fortunate as them.

ACE members include film producers **Marichu Vera-Perez** and **Armida Siguion-Reyna**; directors **Joel Lamangan, Chito Roño, Jose Javier Reyes** and **Carlitos Siguion-Reyna**; talent managers **Dolor Guevarra, Girlie Rodis, Ethel Ramos** and **June Rufino**; actresses **Nida Blanca** and **Boots Anson-Roa**; theater stalwarts **Zeneida Amador, Celeste Legaspi, Mitch Valdes** and **Audie Gemora**.

Joemari's back

WHOEVER thinks that multi-awarded singer-composer **Jose Mari Chan** has given up live performing should think again.

Joemari is rarely seen in the live concert scene lately because he chooses his singing engagements carefully since he is focused on his family's sugar business.

If we remember right, his last major concert in Manila was at The Tent at The Fort last December.

While he usually holds Valentine concerts, he flew to San Francisco this year and did a well-received show with **Joey Albert** at the Masonic Theater.

But he will be back for another live musical journey in "The Best of Jose Mari Chan, Part 2," a repeat of the successful show he did at the Big Stage of Westin Philippine Plaza two years ago.

The one-night concert on Sept. 14 is mounted by Maxi-Media International and will be held at the Westin Grand Ballroom.

Joemari is expected to dish out his timeless hits like "Can We Just Stop and Talk Awhile," "Please be Careful with My Heart," "Can We Start Over Again" and "Beautiful Girl."

His songs are for incurable romantics who have adopted most of his original compositions as their love anthems.

Joemari has passed on his musical legacy to his two kids. **Michael** sings and writes songs like his dad and has released a solo album from BMG Records (Pilipinas).

Lisa is a reluctant singing star, but has graced a few tracks of her dad's albums, including the best-selling holiday tune, "Christmas in Our Hearts."

Power couples

POWER couples don't necessarily mean they're lovers or husbands and wives. In tonight's edition of "Sharon," 5:30 p.m. on ABS-CBN, the megastar will profile the best-known partnerships in local entertainment.

They can be friends and working partners who have survived the test of time in show biz. They've laughed and cried together and they have interesting and heartwarming stories to share.

Find out the secret behind the long-lasting partnership of musical director **Louie Ocampo** and concert king **Martin Nievera**.

Or what keeps husband and wife choreographers **Mel** and **Anna Feliciano** in perfect step with each other through the years.

It is also interesting to know how "Talk TV" hosts **Ryan Agoncillo** and **Janet McBride** manage to hit it off easily and generate a winning small screen chemistry in the short time that they've known each other.

Then there's the director-scriptwriter tandem of **Carlitos Siguion-Reyna** and **Bibeth Orteza**, who are out to share how they come up with box office hits.

Cher will not sell beach house

LOS ANGELES—Put away your wallets everyone—actress and singer is still working on her seven-bedroom beachfront home in Malibu and doesn't plan to sell it now, despite reports to the contrary, the Los Angeles Times says.

That comes as news to realtors who were shown the seven-bedroom, 1,300 squaremeter house and told it was for sale for a cool $25 million, the paper said.

But said Cher spokesperson Liz Rosenberg says the house is not for sale.

"Cher is passionate about this house," Rosenberg told the Times. "It's the house of Cher's dreams. It's the essence of Cher—staggeringly beautiful. It's also a work in progress."

The Oscar-winning actress ("Moonstruck," 1987) oversaw its construction and now she is decorating the interior, real estate sources told the paper.

The home—described as a cross between a villa and a monastery—sits on one hectare with a guesthouse, a pool that appears to spill into the Pacific Ocean and a tennis court, the paper said.

Cher bought some antiques from Hearst Castle that "will fit in perfectly with the architecture, which has a historic, Italian look to it," Rosenberg said? *AP*

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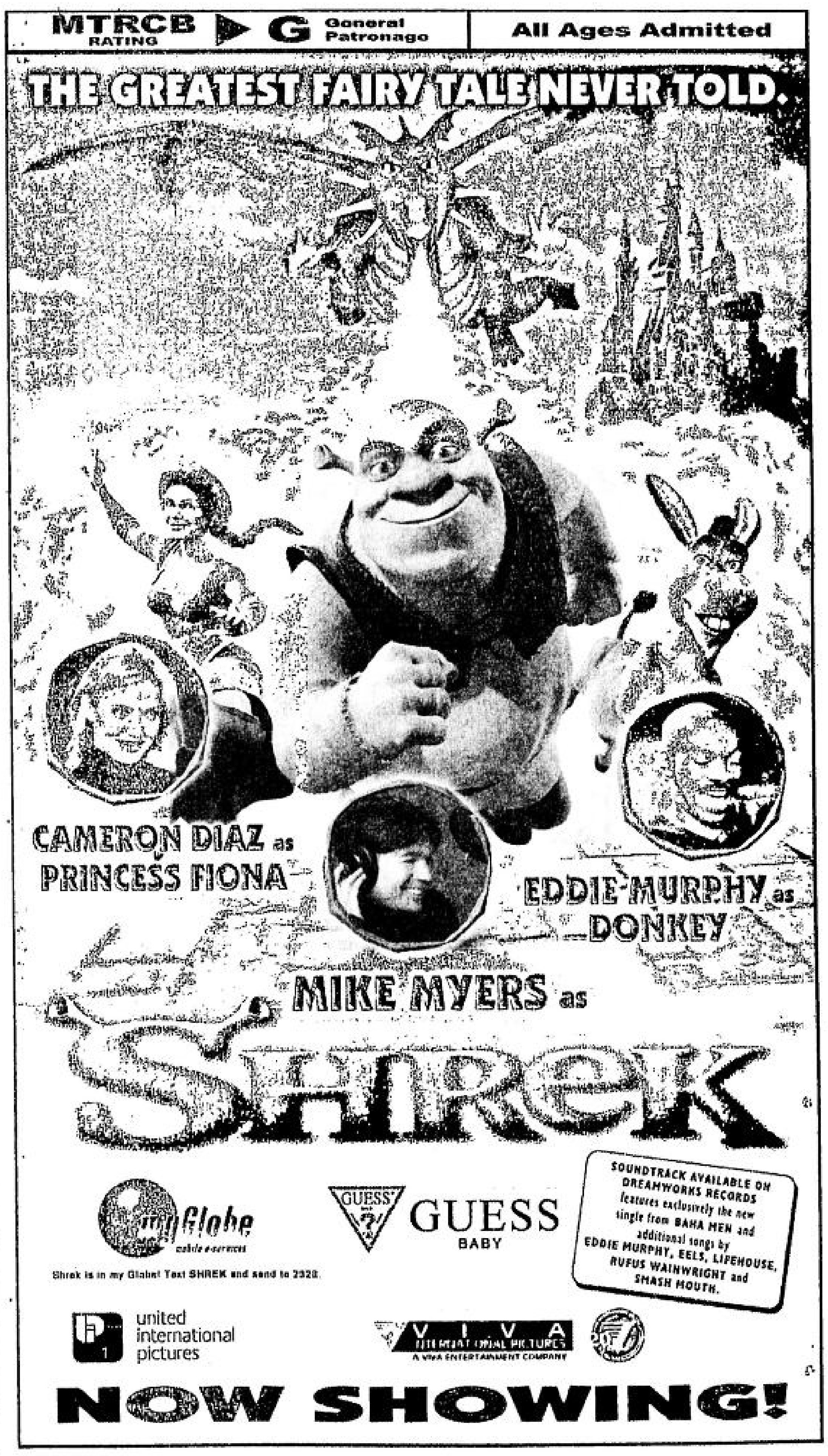
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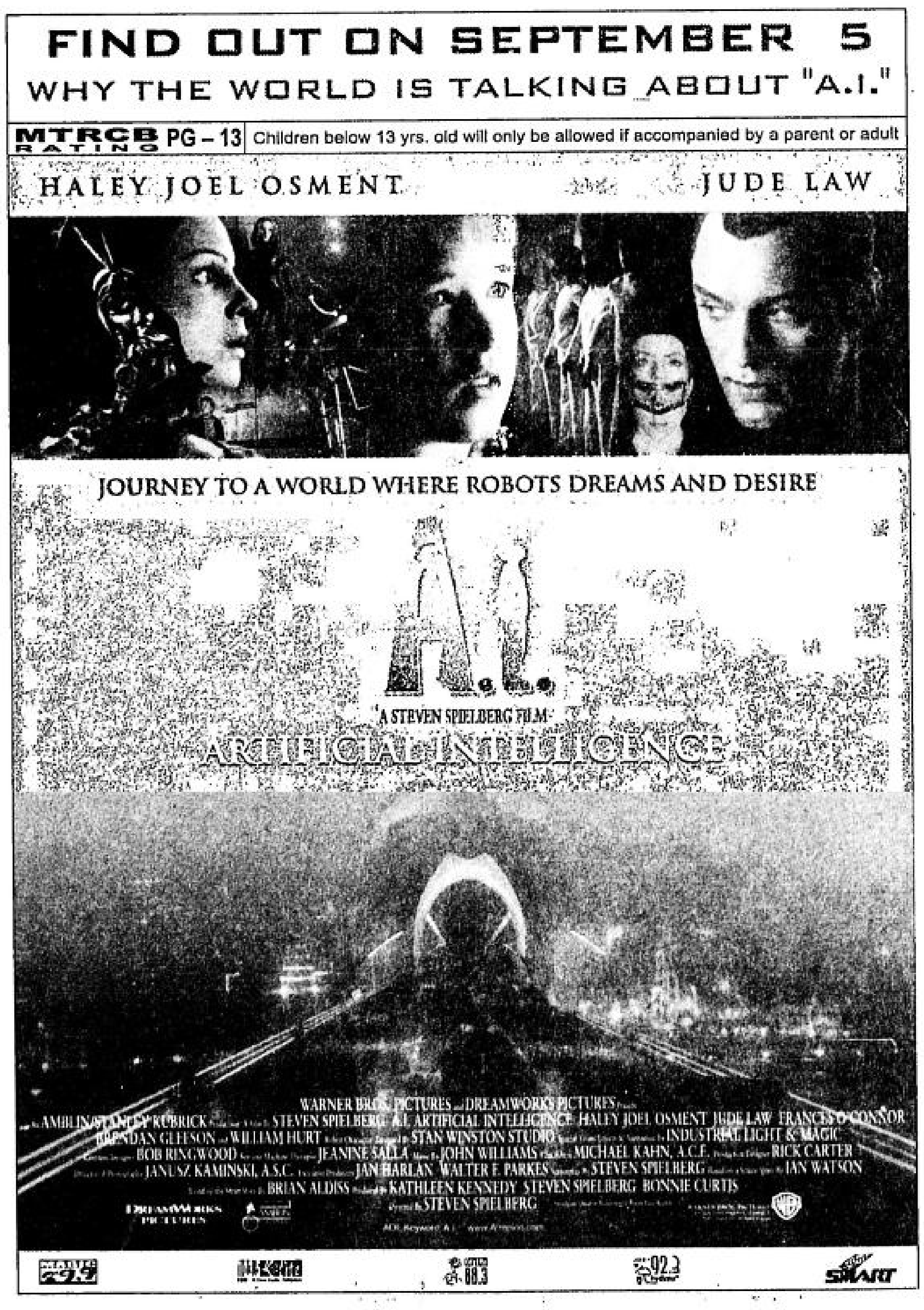
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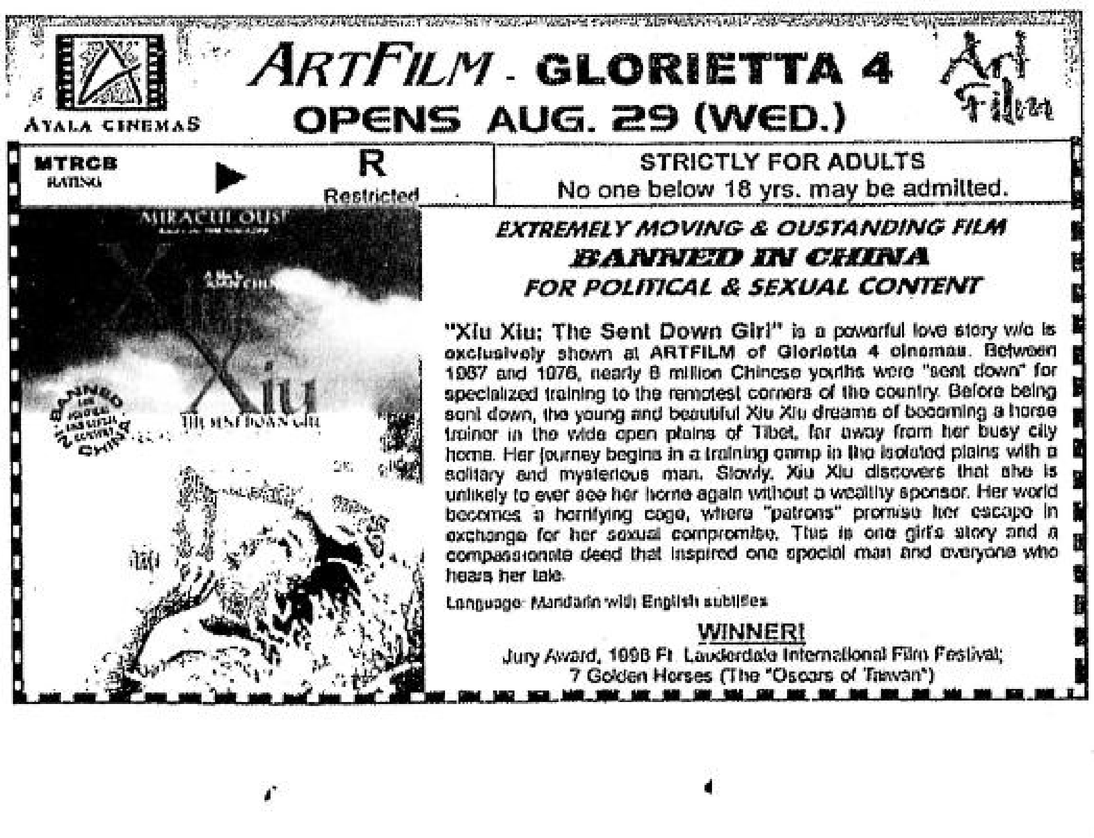
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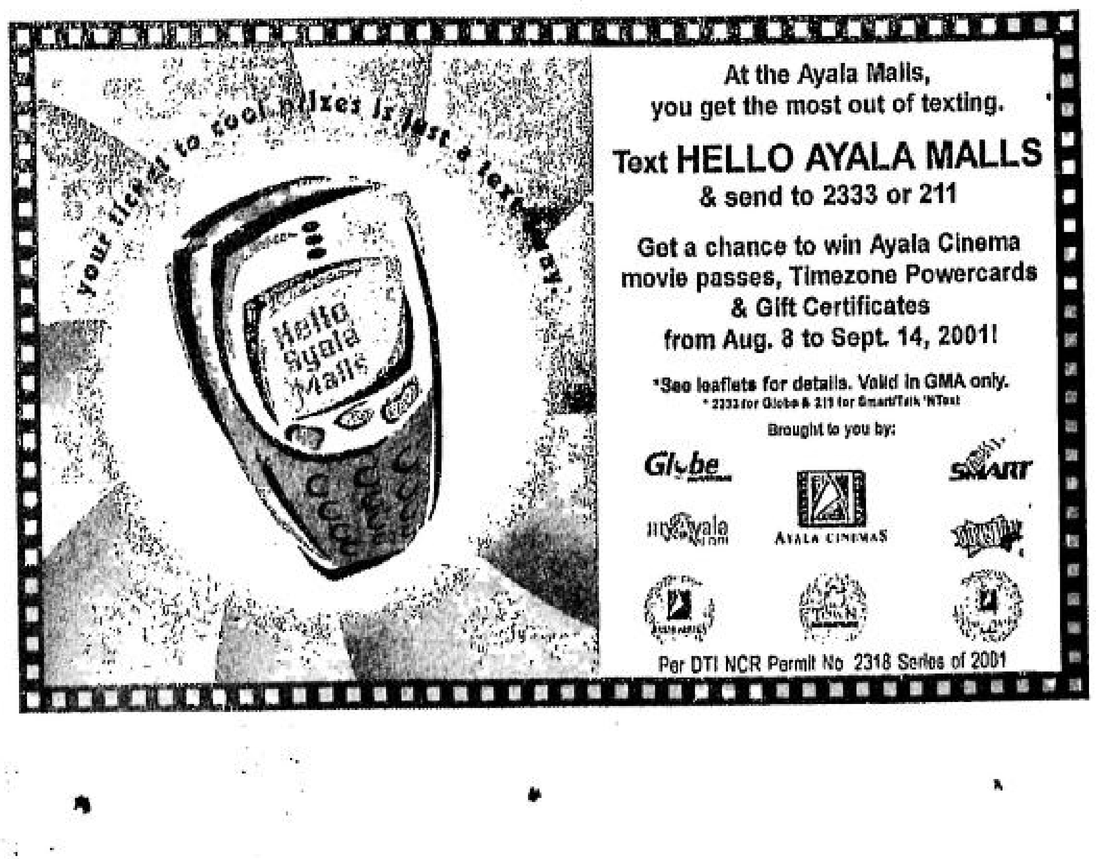
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6	RADYO
7	IRA
8	BROTHEWRHOOD

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2	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
3	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
4	BROTHERHOOD
5	PLANET OF THE APES
6	SEX MEDUSA
7	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
8	ANIMAL
9	RADYO
10	MOULIN ROUGE

SM CITY FAIRVIEW
9350749

1	SEX MEDUSA
2	BRIDGET JONE 'S DIARY
3	KISS OF THE DRAGON
4	SHREK
5	BROTHERHOOD
6	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
7	PLANET OF THE APES
8	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
9	RADYO
10	MOULIN ROUGE
11	JURASSIC PARK 3
12	IRA

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1	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
2	BROTHERHOOD
3	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
4	SHREK
5	KISS OF THE DRAGON
6	MOULIN ROUGE
7	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
8	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
9	PLANET OF THE APES
10	SEX MEDUSA
11	RADYO
12	ANIMAL

SM MEGAMALL
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1	MOULIN ROUGE
2	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
3	PLANET OF THE APES
4	BROTHERHOOD
5	ANIMAL
6	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
7	SEX MEDUSA
8	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
9	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
10	SHREK
11	RADYO
12	IRA

SM TUTUBAN
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1	PLANET OF THE APES
2	SHREK
3	BROTHERHOOD
4	IRA

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1	SEX MEDUSA
2	BROTHERHOOD
3	IRA
4	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
5	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
6	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
7	PLANET OF THE APES
8	SHREK
9	ANIMAL
10	MOULIN ROUGE
11	RADYO
12	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY

SM SOUTHMALL
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1	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
2	SEX MEDUSA
3	SHREK
4	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
5	IRA
6	RADYO
7	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
8	PLANET OF THE APES
9	ANIMAL
10	BROTHERHOOD

SM GUADALUPE COMM'L
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1	IRA
2	PLANET OF THE APES
3	SEX MEDUSA

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1	SHREK
2	KISS OF THE DRAGON
3	KAMASUTRA 2001
4	COOL DUDES
5	DUDURUGIN KITA . . .
6	RADYO
7	PLANET OF THE APES

SM ILOILO
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1	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
2	CLOSED
3	KISS OF THE DRAGON
4	PLANET OF THE APES
5	CATS & DOGS
6	DUDURUGIN KITA . . .
7	CLOSED
8	MOULIN ROUGE

SM PAMPANGA
7128015

1	ANIMAL
2	SHREK
3	SCREAM... FRIDAY 13TH
4	RADYO
5	VENUS
6	PLANET OF THE APES

SM SUCAT
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1	BROTHERHOOD
2	SHREK
3	PLANET OF THE APES
4	MOULIN ROUGE

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2	BROTHERHOOD, YOUNG WARLOCK
3	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
4	TEENAGE SEDUCTION

GLORIETTA 4

1	SHREK in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
2	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	SHREK THX in DSD/SDDS/DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	A PIECE OF EDEN (Phil. Premiere) Art Film in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL in DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
6	PLANET OF THE APES in DTS/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
7	MOULIN ROUGE in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

GREENBELT

1	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
2	PLANET OF THE APES in SONY DYNAMIC DIGITAL SOUND
3	SHREK in DOLBY STEREO DIGITAL SOUND
4	MARTIN NIEVERA LIVE! AUG.24 TO 25 9PM Onstage

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1	SHREK THX in DSD/SDDS DIGITAL SOUND
2	PLANET OF THE APES in DSD DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND
3	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
4	MOULIN ROUGE in DTS DIGITAL SOUND
5	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY in DTS DIGITAL SOUND

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1 (DDS)	BROTHERHOOD
2 (SDDS)	PLANET OF THE APES
3 (DTS)	SHREK
4 GOLD (DTS)	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
5 GOLD (DOLBY)	MOULIN ROUGE
6 GOLD (SDDS)	PLANET OF THE APES
7 GOLD (DOLBY)	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
8 [illegible]	RADYO
9 [illegible]	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
10 [illegible]	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH

Pearl Plaza Cinemas
(Parañaque) tel. 853.4486

1	VENUS
2	RSERVE
3 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6 (DTS)	RESERVE
Golden Pearl THX	RESERVE

Masagana CINEMAX 1-2 & 3
(Kalaw) tel 536.4315

1 (DOLBY)	PLANET OF THE APES
2 (DTS)	
3	IRA

Masagana CINEMA
(Pasay) tel 831.6603

1	IRA
2	PLANET OF THE APES
3	BROTHERHOOD

starmall Movies
(Shaw Blvd.) tel 724.4986

1	SHREK
2	BROTHERHOOD
3	IRA
4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PLANET OF THE APES
5	TEENAGE DIARIES

Metropolis
(Alabang) tel 543.4001

1	RESERVE
2	RESERVE
3	SEX MEDUSA
4	IRA
5	SHREK
6	PLANET OF THE APES
7	BROTHERHOOD
8	VENUS

LOUIE'S CINEMA THX
(Makati City) tel 751.2010 / 892.3349

1	SHREK

Center Plaza Cinema
(Balanga, Bataan) tel (047) 237.7007

1	DR. DO LITTLE
2	KISS OF THE DRAGON

FCM FAIRVIEW CENTER MALL, INC
tel 930.9515

1	
2	
3	

Spring
(Libertad, Pasay City) tel 831.7864

1	IRA
A	PLANET OF THE APES

Sunshine
(FTI, Taguig) tel 838.4301 loc. 3376

1	PLANET OF THE APES
2	VENUS
3	SECRET GAME
4	GIRLS

GOTESCO CINEMA

City
(Manila) tel 734.8588

1 (DOLBY)	PLANET OF THE APES
2	RESERVE
3	IRA
4	BROTHERHOOD
5	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH
6	SEX MEDUSA
7 (DTS)	SHREK
8 (SDDS)	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
9 (DOLBY)	TEENAGE SEDUCTION

Caloocan
tel 362.3508

2	IRA

Grand Central
(Caloocan) tel 364.3781

1	IRA
2	BROTHERHOOD
3	VENUS
4 (SDDS)	PLANET OF THE APES
5	SEX MEDUSA
6 (DOLBY)	SHREK
7 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES
8	KISS OF THE DRAGON
9	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH

Commonwealth
tel 951.0083

1 (DTS)	SHREK
2	VENUS
3	BROTHERHOOD
4	SEX MEDUSA
5 (SDDS)	PLANET OF THE APES
6	IRA
7 (DOLBY)	SHREK
8	TEENAGE SEDUCTION

Ortigas
tel 656.6795

1	VENUS
2	IRA
3 (DTS)	SHREK
4	RESERVE
5 (SDDS)	PLANET OF THE APES

Universal
(Manila) tel 733.2470

1	IRA

Sampaguita
(Cubao) tel 911.7888

1	IRA

Dilson
(Manila) tel 734.7724

Dilson	IRA
Lords	IRA
Jennet	RESERVE

MARKETPLACE
Mandaluyong tel 533.3851 / 533.3856

1	IRA
2	PLANET OF THE APES
3	RESERVE
4	VENUS

Prima
(Pasig) tel 641.1215

3	VENUS

Isetann Cinerama Complex Recto
SUPER CINERAMA
tel 733.4238

1 (DOLBY)	PLANET OF THE APES
2	SHREK
3	SEX MEDUSA
4	IRA
5	VENUS

New Divisoria Mall
DIVISORIA CINEMA
tel 244.4619

1	IRA
2	PLANET OF THE APES
3	RESERVE
4	RESERVE
5	RESERVE
6	VENUS

Baclaran LRT
LRT CINEMA
tel 512.0115

1 (DOLBY)	IRA
2	VENUS
3	PLANET OF THE APES

Berma
tel 879-2029 or 30

1	IRA
2	PLANET OF THE APES

CitiMall
(Parañaque) tel 820.7269

1	BROTHERHOOD
2	VENUS
3	
4	

CINEMA 2000

Cinema 2000 Target Mall
(Sta. Rosa Laguna)
tel (049) 534.2185 / 534.2198

1	VENUS
2	ACCIDENTAL SPY
3 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES

Cinema 2000 Waltermart
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7383

1	TOM CATS
2 (DTS)	VENUS
3 (DOLBY)	PLANET OF THE APES
4	GET OVER IT

Cinema 2000 Pavilion Mall
(Biñan) Tel. (049) 411-1146

1	VENUS
2 (DOLBY)	GET OVER IT
3 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES
4	TOM CATS

Cinemagix
(Urdaneta) tel(075) 568.6771

1	KISS OF THE DRAGON
2	PLANET OF THE APES
3	SOON TO OPEN
4	SOON TO OPEN

Lianas Cinema
(Alabang) tel 850.1276

1 (SDDS)	BROTHERHOOD
2	VENUS
3	IRA
4 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES

Lianas MovieCity
(Calamba) tel (049) 545.7202

1 (DOLBY)	RIOT
2	VENUS
3 (DTS)	PLANET OF THE APES
4	TOM CATS
5	BAGANSYA

Olivarez Tri-Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.8883

1	PLANET OF THE APES
2	STICKMEN
3	VENUS

Olivarez Los Baños
tel (049) 536.5101

1	PLANET OF THE APES
2	STICKMEN
3	VENUS

Olivarez Tagaytay
tel (046) 413.0311

1	DRIVEN
2	RED DIARIES
3	VENUS

Morales Cinema
(Biñan) tel (049) 511.9736

1	STICKMEN
2	PLANET OF THE APES
3	RUMBLE FROM THE BRONX

Cabuyao
(Laguna City) tel (049) 531.4808

1 (DTS)	VENUS
2 (DTS)	

Fourstep
(Cavite) tel (046) 416.2385

1	VENUS

Emperor
(Rosario Cavite) tel (046) 438.1657

1	VENUS
2	REPLICANT
3	DRUNKEN MASTER 2

Fiesta World Mall
(Lipa) tel (043) 981.0790

1	PLANET OF THE APES
2	VENUS
3	ANIMAL
4	DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

Jade Cinema
(Angeles City) tel (045) 887.5001 to 03

1 (DOLBY EX)	SHREK
2	COOL DUDES
3	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH
4 (DTS EX)	PLANET OF THE APES

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4	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH
5	SHREK
6	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
7	ANIMAL
8	PLANET OF THE APES
9	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
10	MOULIN ROUGE

ERMITA
538-7809 TO 12

1	SHREK
2	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH
3	BROTHERHOOD
4	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
5	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
6	CRAZY/BEAUTIFUL
7	PLANET OF THE APES

NOVALICHES
935-3229 TO 31

1	UNDER REGULAR CHECK UP
2	SHREK
3	UNDER REGULAR CHECK UP
4	PLANET OF THE APES
5	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH
6	IRA
7	BROTHERHOOD
8	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY

IMUS
(046) 471-8188

1	PLANET OF THE APES
2	IRA
3	BROTHERHOOD
4	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH
5	SHREK
6	SHREK

BACOLOD
(034) 441-0453

1	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
2	KISS OF THE DRAGON
3	CATS & DOGS
4	MOULIN ROUGE
5	RADYO
6	STICKMEN

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ALI MALL CINEPLEX-2	SCREAM... FRIDAY THE 13TH
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-3 (DDS)	SHREK
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-4 (SDDS)	PLANET OF THE APES
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-5 (DTS)	BROTHERHOOD
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-6 (DOLBY)	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL
ALI MALL CINEPLEX-7(DOLBY)	TEENAGE SEDUCTION
FARMERS PLAZA-1(DOLBY)	SEX MEDUSA
FARMERS PLAZA-2(DOLBY)	PLANET OF THE APES
FIESTA CARNIVAL	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
NEW FRONTIER	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION

MANILA

EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	TUHOG/ RED BLOODED AMERICAN GIRL
ODEON	PLANET OF THE APES
ODEON-2	VENUS
ROBEN	IRA
TANDEM-1	TURN ON
TANDEM-2	PARU PARONG LIGAW
TIMES	WOMAN ON TOP/ VALENTINE

QUEZON CITY

ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	CLOSED
ACT-4	CLOSED
CORONET-2	IRA
QUEZON-1	SEX MEDUSA
REMAR	SEX MEDUSA
REMAR-2	PLANET OF THE APES

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OCEAN CINEMA-B	CRISELDA

MANDALUYONG CITY

SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	SHREK
CINEMA-2	CRAZY/ BEAUTIFUL

CAINTA RIZAL

STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	IRA
CINEMA-2	VENUS
CINEMA-3	ANIMAL
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PLANET OF THE APES
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	KISS OF THE DRAGON
CINEMA-6	RADYO
CINEMA-7	RED DIARIES
CINEMA-8	COOL DUDES
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	SHREK
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	SHREK
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	PLANET OF THE APES
CINEMA-12	BROTHERHOOD
CINEMA-14	SCREAM
CINEMA-15	TEENAGE SEDUCTION

LORES

CINEMA-2	CLOSED
CINEMA-3	CLOSED

POWER PLANT CINEMA

CINEMA-1	BRIDGET JONE'S DIARY
CINEMA-2	SHREK
CINEMA-3	SHREK
CINEMA-4	SHREK
CINEMA-5	CRAZY BEAUTIFUL
CINEMA-6	PLANET OF THE APES

UNIWIDE METROMALL

(LAS PINAS)	
CINEMA-1	RESERVE
CINEMA-2	RESERVE
CINEMA-4	RESERVE

UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL

(PARANAQUE)	
CINEMA-1	WALANG MATIGAS NA PUTO SA GUTOM
CINEMA-2	BLOODY WISH
CINEMA-4	HAPDI SA TAG-INIT

PERALEJO

Show biz stars in fashion series

SHOWBIZ stars Rica Peralejo and Paolo Contis join the fashion series, "Crissa and Ego: The Denim Edge," at 5 p.m. today at Sta. Lucia East Grand Mall.

Crissa and Ego Jeans are two of the best brands of local basic clothing for male and female.

The fashion series takes mallgoers to the edge of casual clothing in a unique experience, as Crissa and Ego unveil their newest products.

Rica and Paolo are the image models of the garment line.

"The Denim Edge" will also be presented at Robinson's Place in Ermita, Manila, on Sept. 30. It is directed and choreographed by Bobbit Patag.

RX 93.1 turns 18

THE ANNIVERSARY of Monster Radio RX 93.1 comes to a climax tomorrow, Aug. 27, when Manila's Hottest celebrates its 18th year with a thanksgiving party for its listeners at Hard Rock Café Makati.

An array of today's hottest bands and top recording artists are scheduled to perform starting 8 p.m. They include Anna Fegi, Itchyworms, Imago, Kyla, Moonstar 88, Parokya ni Edgar, Sandwich, Teeth and RX 93.1's very own Maxine.

Sharing the Hard Rock state with them will be RX 93.1's popular air staff of jocks and newscasters: Boom Gonzalez, Brian Gomez, Francesca, Trish, Chinggay, Evette, Louie D., Jude Rocha, Maxine, The Gaucho, Rico Robles and Tom Alvarez.

Monster Radio RX 93.1 turned 18 years old this month with a series of exciting events, including the launch of programs, movie premieres, RX "On Stage Presents" Moonster 88 at Cactus Bar and Grill, the showcase of RX "Band Breakout 2001" finalists at Hard Rock Café and this year's edition of King Babajigalu's Getaway radio promo.

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5:50 PM - Shrek
8:10 PM - Shrek
10:30 PM - Shrek

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ENTERTAINMENT

LOUIE C. CAMINO, Editor

'Martyr' wife fights back

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

POPS Fernandez's "Larawan" episode last Wednesday told a story that was close to her own experience: the death of an unhappy marriage, and the eventual rebirth of a tenuous friendship between ex-spouses.

In the TV drama, Pops puts up with her husband's (**Albert Martinez**) failings—until she discovered that he had another woman.

This was the last straw that compelled her to leave their home, despite the piteous entreaties of their daughter. At first, Albert poisoned the girl's mind and heart against her mother, but, as their estrangement festered, he realized that his daughter needed Pops more than ever.

That's why, even after the court had awarded him custody of the troubled girl, he entrusted her to Pops. For her part, Pops was properly grateful, although having her daughter with her was no picnic because the girl kept whining about going back to her dad.

The conflict came to a head when the girl got sick when she was staying with her father, and Pops refused to look after her. She eventually relented, but not after some bitter words were exchanged.

Viewers not used to seeing Pops angry must have been surprised to see the level and intensity of vehemence that she reached in this episode. That's how close the story's painful material must have been to her.

Even better, Pops used her intense emotion to clarify other wives and mothers' perspective related to the break-up of a marriage. From her portrayal, it became clear to viewers that the day of the martyr wife is long gone.

This wife and mother fought back, complained, asserted her rights, and insisted on being her own person, even if her husband hated her for it, and her daughter didn't understand.

In the end, Albert finally came around to her point of view, and their daughter understood. This was not so much a happy ending as it was a hopeful beginning, but that was good enough.

Feedback

FROM **Dr. Juan L. Custodio, Jr.** of Paranaque City: "I heard **Regine Velas-quez** say a mouthful on TV on the topic of some poor folks claiming her as their long-lost daughter: *Tingnan niyo naman ang mukha ko at mga mukha nila... At huwag silang magtangkang puntahan o kausapin ako, baka lang...'*

A better comment could have been: "I am flattered that some people want me to be their long-lost daughter. What an honor! Though I have a real family of my own, I will consider all of you as family ...'

Dawn Zulueta on 'ZD'

TODAY, Aug. 26 on ABC-5'S "Eezy Dancing" at 9 p.m., the special dancing guests are **Dawn Zulueta** and her mother-in-law, **Linda Lagdameo,** Dance Sport Champion in the one-dance category.

Other guests include **Victoria London** and her mother, **Chien-Li.**

Westlife on HBO

ON SEPT. 17 at 10:30 p.m., the HBO Channel's concert special is "Westlife Live: Dream Come True."

The concert was filmed live at The Point, Dublin, Ireland, earlier this year. Replays are on Sept. 22 at 1:15 a.m. and Sept. 28 at 3:30 p.m.

Eula is finally noticed

FOR YEARS now, knowledgeable viewers have admired **Eula Valdez**'s acting ability. They've also been wondering why she hasn't risen to star status, despite her obvious talent and good looks.

Well, they're happy now because Eula has finally been noticed by the TV audience, thanks to her attention-calling role in the weeknight soap, "Pangako Sa 'Yo" on Channel 2.

Sure, she plays "only" a kontrabida in the show, but that's okay. The important thing is that she's getting the attention she deserves.

Let's hope that other TV-film producers give her better and more challenging roles from here on in!

SILA'Y NAGBABALIK!
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Directed by: BOOTS PLATA, dgpi
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Downey to appear in Elton's video

LOS ANGELES—Troubled but award-winning actor Robert Downey Jr. will star in the video "I Want Love," the first single off Elton John's new album "Songs From the West Coast."

Downey was the personal choice of the pop icon for the project, John said in a release.

"I wanted to do something special with the video for 'I Want Love,' by having a real artist," he said.

"I thought Robert Downey Jr. would be an amazing choice—he's an incredible actor and lyrically the song would be perfect for him to interpret. I'm very fond of him and was thrilled that he agreed to do it."

The Oscar-nominated actor could use a break—recently he lost his job as a reoccurring character in hit TV show "Ally McBeal" over new drug charges. Last month a judge sentenced him to three years probation and ordered him to undergo drug rehabilitation.

"Songs From The West Coast"—including new material written by John and longtime writing partner Bernie Taupin—hits record stores in October. *AP*

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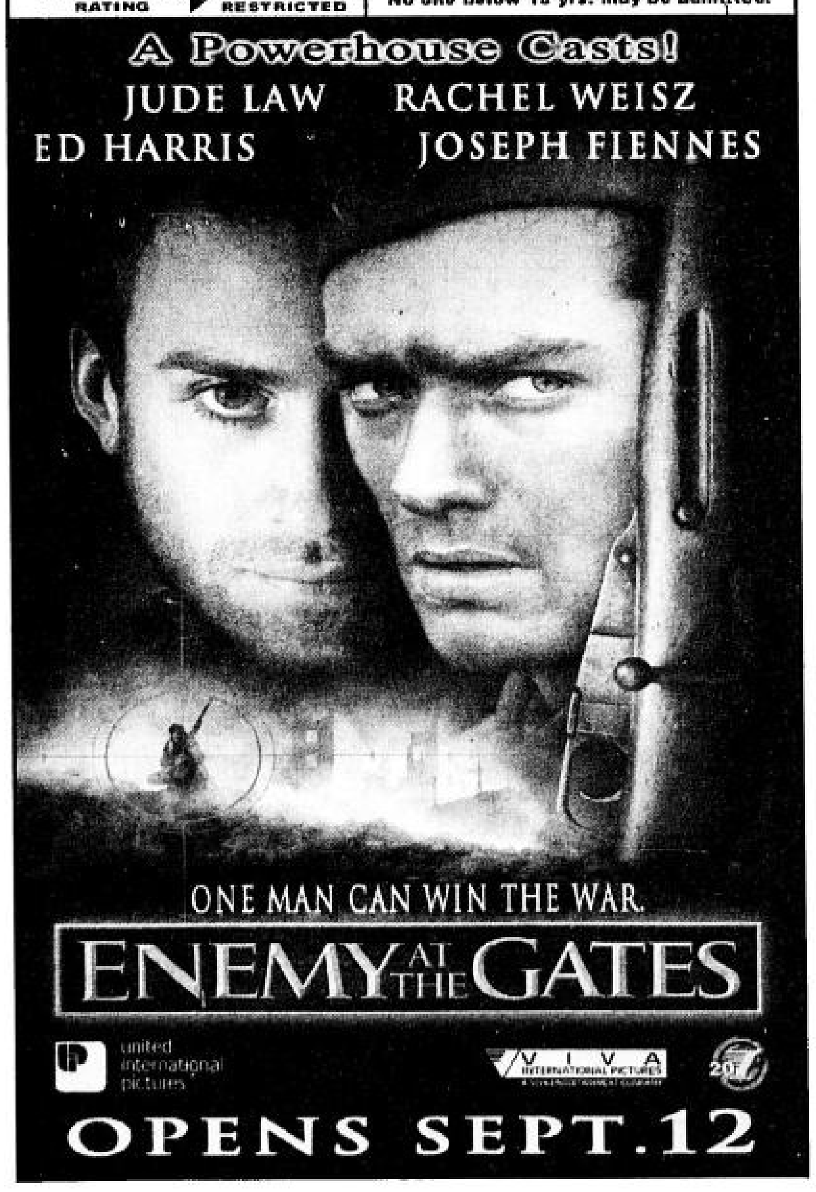
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SHREK - GP 10:40, 12:40, 2:40, 4:40, 6:40, 8:40	CRAZY BEAUTIFUL - P 13 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40	PLANET OF HE APES - P 13 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15

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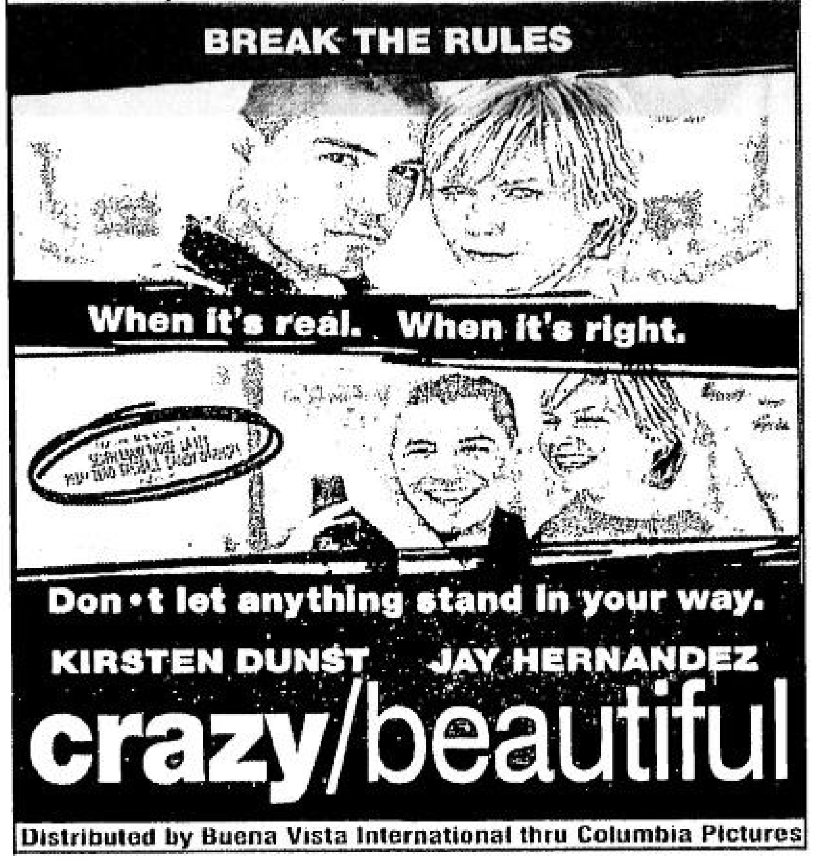
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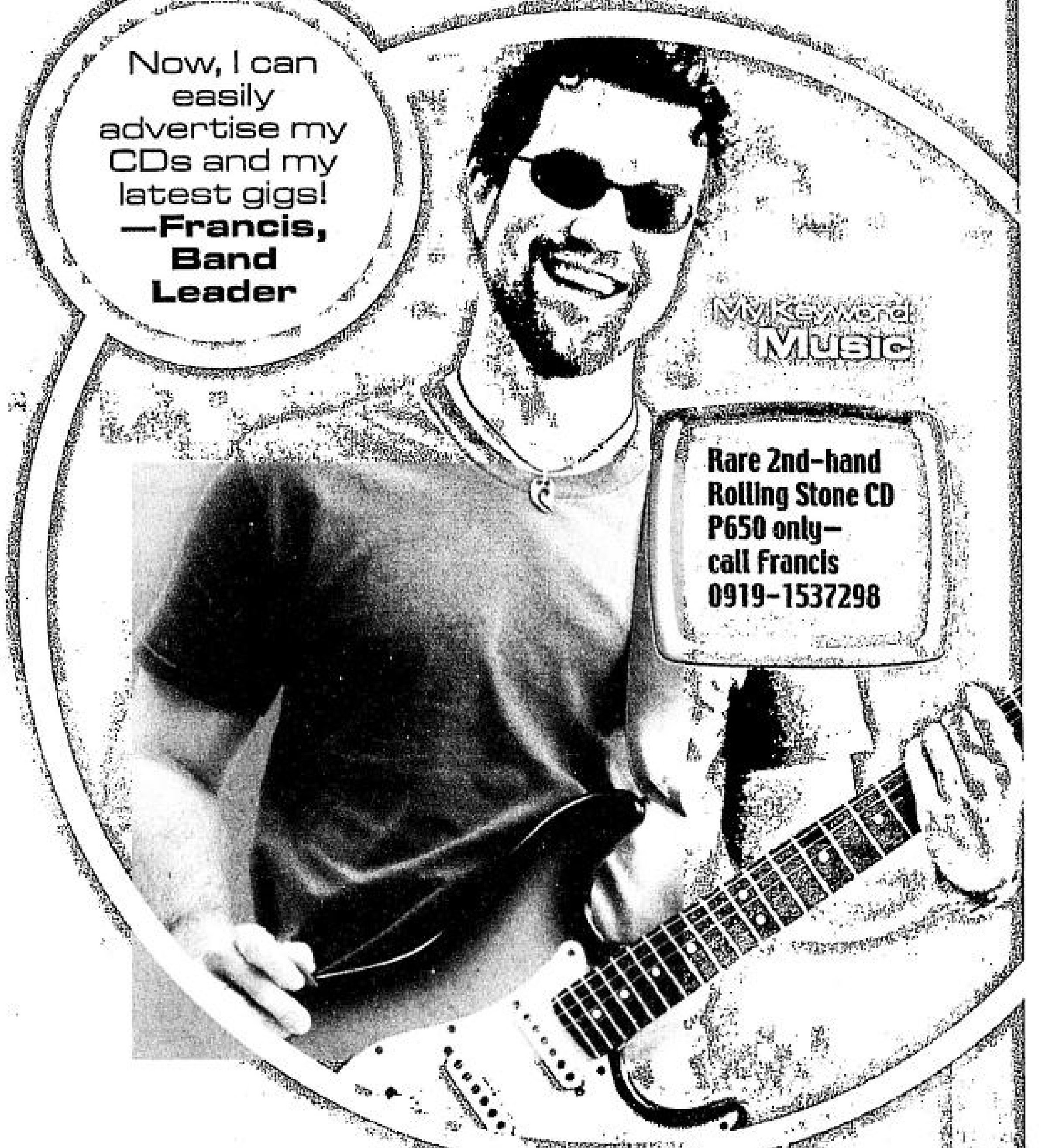
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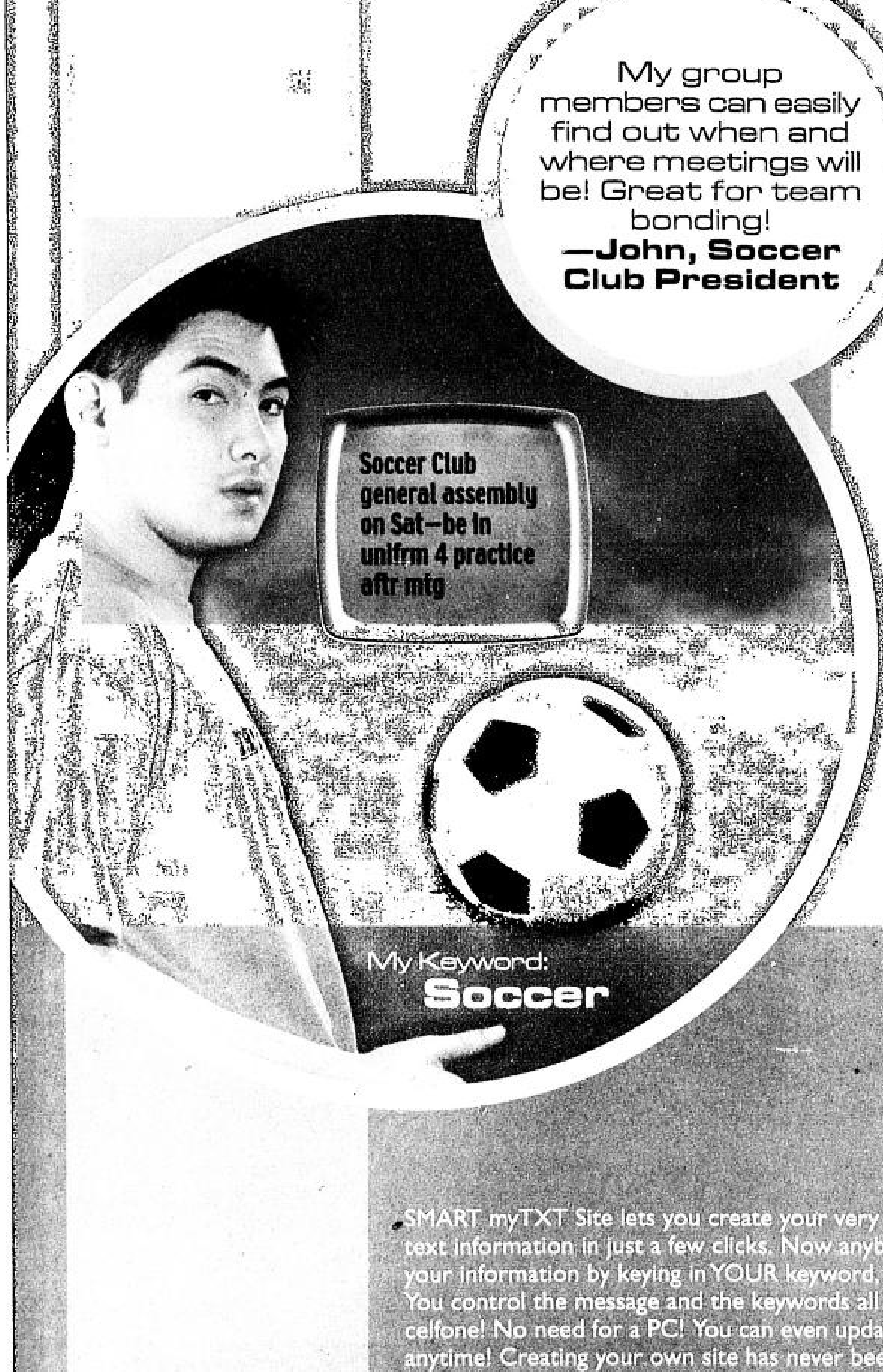
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IN JUST TWO YEARS

From errand boy to company president

FIRST JOB

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

EXEQUIEL "Excy" Robles started working when he was only 17 years old. That was in 1972 and his job was to follow up on paperwork at the Register of Deeds.

His bosses were his father, his aunt Marcela and their spouses, who had just put up a small office affair called Buen-Mar Realty.

Based in Santolan (then part of Pasig), Buen-Mar was primarily engaged in developing its namesake subdivisions in Pasig, Taytay, Morong and Rizal. It was later renamed Sta. Lucia Realty and Development Inc.

Robles tells SundayBiz he did the work but was not serious about it since he was just a teenager and had other things on his mind, like school.

But it turned out fortunate that he got at least a taste of the real estate business as early as he did because he was suddenly thrust into the daunting role of president of the company in 1974.

FROM ERRAND/B2

A CHIEF executive at 19 years old, Excy Robles built Sta. Lucia into one of the country's largest real estate firms.

Investors get in touch with their feelings

NEW YORK—Investors asked few questions when their red-hot love affair with the stock market yielded wads of cash.

But now that the relationship has soured, they are desperate for answers—and that's good news for the pundits, fortune-tellers and fund managers who specialize in sizing up the market's tempestuous psychology.

"It's sort of like when you have a good marriage, you don't go to a marriage counselor," said Michal Ann Strahilevitz, a marketing professor at the University of Arizona. "When you have a bad marriage, you go to a marriage counselor."

Frazzled investors are sifting through the market wreckage to discover what led them to funnel money into the fragile technology bubble that popped in 2000, and how they can learn—and profit—from their mistakes.

Often as not, they are finding that the answers don't lie on the hard-and-fast rules of textbook finance, but on the more amorphous world of the human psyche.

"Eventually you are dealing with humans behind computer screens or you are dealing with humans on the street," said Arjen Pasma, a portfolio manager at investment bank ABN Amro.

"If you want to understand how the market works, you have to also understand how people come to investment decisions."

A robust cottage industry offers to help investors decipher those market dips and blips that seem to defy logic. Books, research, funds and even counselors are helping investors look into their hearts and minds for clues behind the ticker tape.

"If we all behave irrationally in the same way, then it does affect the market," said John Nofsinger, author of "Investment Madness: How Psychology Affects Your Investing . . . and What to Do About It (Financial Times Prentice Hall; $24)."

"That's what has happened and what has drawn interest not only from academics, but from practitioners who say, 'If this is true then how can I make money off of it.'"

Wall Street takes to the couch

Textbooks teach that investors buy stock for rational factors, like earnings and anticipated growth. But the wild swings of the past two years show that these fundamentals sometimes don't matter much at all.

"People are realizing there is a lot of irrational behavior," said Woody Dorsey, president of research firm Market Semiotics. "In fact, my premise is markets are always irrational. This is not necessarily pleasant for a lot of people. It introduces a much more uncertain environment."

Dorsey forecasts market movements using behavioral economics, a methodology that, he says, can make sense of the market's inherent irrationality. He polls about 80 traders by phone and e-mail daily to capture their "gut feeling" on the market and tracks that against Wall Street's sentiment over history.

"The psychological approach is not really something that is fully accepted by mainstream," Dorsey said and many of the investment firms that are his clients prefer to go unnamed—still a bit shy about mixing finance and emotions. "But it's going to be the next important development in market analysis," he adds.

Some are taking investor psychology to a more intimate level. Adrienne Laris Toghraie works with traders to discover the psychological factors that are sabotaging their investment performance.

After an evaluation, Toghraie may instruct her clients to do some reading, attend one of her seminars or participate in one-on-one counseling with her to discover, for example, why they keep holding onto a dog of a stock.

"All that stuff needs to be cleared up in your life," said Toghraie, president of Trading on Target. "Trading is performance and to be a good performer you have to have a psychological stability that keeps you at performance level."

Making money off financial follies

Investment banks are betting cold-hard cash can be made off investors' whims. ABN Amro launched its Ratio Invest Fund in April 1999 and has added two more behavioral funds.

The Dutch bank spent about two years researching which stocks will outperform based on investor psychology. The strategy is still a work in progress—the Ratio Invest Fund has underperformed its benchmark since inception.

The fund managers chose four psychological factors that influence investors' decisions and stock prices. Investors, for instance, tend to be lured by a company's image—gravitating to large, stable firms like soda giant Coca-Cola Co.

"People tend to want to be invested in these type of companies, because they offer some type of conformity and safety," Pasma said. "People think you cannot lose money on Coca-Cola, but you can lose money on some small stock you don't know very well."

ABN Amro also takes a look at investors' habit of overreacting to headline news and their tendency to ignore some fundamental developments—like an increase in research and development that may lead to better earnings. Overconfidence, investors' tendency

INVESTORS/ B3

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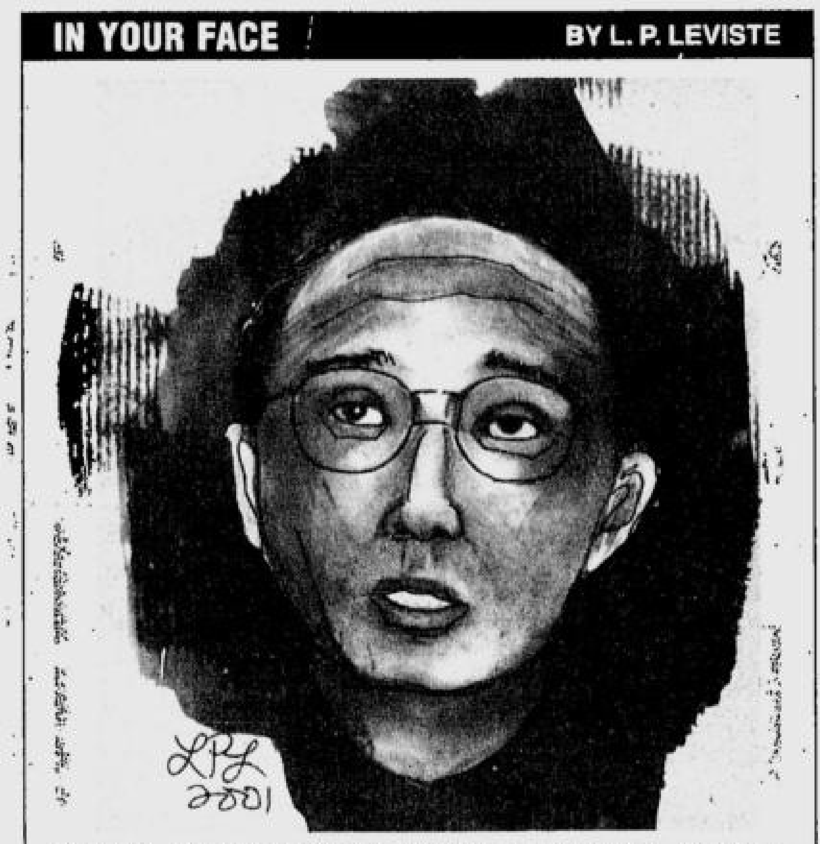


SMART Communication's Napoleon Nazreno and his counterpart at Globe Telecom are in hot water these days after they disclosed plans to reduce free text messages. Will *they proceed? Not if the public can help it.

SAX Riley (at extreme right), chair of Lloyd's, the well-known and historical insurance institution in London, met recently and exchanged notes on the current international reinsurance markets with two senior Filipino insurance executives from the private sector. From left: Reynaldo A. de Dios, risk and insurance consultant; Adelita A. Vergel de Dios, chair of Malayan Insurance and the Lloyd's chair.

Superstardom: Turning points, destiny and destinations

"Secrets of Superstar Speakers"
By Lilly Walters
McGraw-Hill, 2000

By Dante M. Velasco

WHAT do Anita Roddick, Vince Lombardi, Jack Canfield, Les Brown, Deepak Chopra, Zig Ziglar, Norman Vincent Peale, Stephen Covey, et al, have in common?

They share the distinction of being "superstar speakers" in the United States. These are the much sought after motivational speakers, according to Lilly Walters, author of "Secrets of Superstar Speakers"--subtitled "Wisdom from the Greatest Motivators of Our Time."

And they are the 19 speakers from among 79 speakers chosen by 4,000 other speakers, meeting planners and press people who were asked the question who the greatest motivational speaker is.

The names of John F. Kennedy, Billy Graham, Mario Cuomo, and Ronald Reagan were also chosen—but whose lives and styles are not discussed in the book. The author, however, promised to feature more of them in a second volume. (That's a promise, not a threat!)

The 19 featured speakers have another thing in common: They have acquired celebrity status as speakers and authors—not necessarily in that order—because they are able "to connect" with their audience or readers.

Thus, their books bring more invitations for speaking engagements (where they are paid handsome fees), and such speaking tours become veritable platforms for making a sales pitch each time for their books.

Yes, as the book engagingly narrates, these celebrities have begun their speaking career rather modestly, if not inauspiciously They had their "turning points"—which are as diverse as their humble beginnings.

And from such experiences and Damascus-like encounters with compelling truths, these superstars started their steady if not phenomenal climb to superstardom.

And motivators as they are, they are generous with gems of thought—the author call them collectively as "wisdom"—which abound in the book. And these pieces do not only tell the readers how they succeeded, but also how "they stay motivated."

Vince Lombardi, the famous coach better known for the quote, "Winning isn't everything, it's the only thing," says of success: "You must pay the price to win, and you have to pay the price to get to the point where success is possible. Most important, you must pay the price to stay there."

One more thing that characterizes these speakers, Walters says, is their humility. "True greatness lies in humility," she points out. And she quotes Earl Nightingale, the popularizer of self-improvement audio programs, to illuminate her point: "The more I study, the more I read and the more I learn, the less certain I am of what I know. I stunned an audience once by telling them, "The only thing I know for certain is that I don't know anything for certain."

The way these speakers deal with criticisms and rejection is about the same: they don't let negative thoughts come in the way.

FROM THE AUTHOR OF SECRETS OF SUCCESSFUL SPEAKERS
SECRETS OF
Superstar
SPEAKERS
WISDOM FROM THE GREATEST MOTIVATORS OF OUR TIME
LOU HOLTZ
ANITA RODDICK
BRIAN TRACY
AND OTHERS
LILLY WALTERS

Mark Victor Hansen, famous co-author of "Chicken Soup for the Soul," says: "When they say 'no', just say 'next'." Hansen advises that we must "reject the rejection." This is believable coming from someone who had earlier received several rejection slips from 33 publishers!

As for how they succeed in their speeches, one other thing unites them with one quality: passion in their speeches. And his passion and intensity spring from how they relate to "real life"—which has the greatest appeal to listeners in a survey conducted by the author.

"Get to what you are passionate about," Walters says. Ask "what gets your soul soaring," she adds. And then she relates the respective passions of Anita Roddick, founder of Body Shop and famous environmentalist, and Zig Ziglar, a confessed evangelical Christian who she says violated one cardinal principle in public speaking—which is: "Do not bring your religion on the platform."

Actually, it was not religion that catapulted Ziglar to celebrity heights; it was his sincerity, the book clarifies. "People are willing to grant you your belief if you are authentic."

You must believe in what you are speaking. "Touch your own heart first," the author declares.

From such premise, the speaker must have a favorite theme—and thus audiences and readers can identify themes with speakers. Walters cited the famous speech of Winston Churchill—which began: "We shall not flag or fail . . . We shall go on to the end . We shall fight on the beaches . . . We shall fight on the landing grounds. . . ."

Those who prepare lengthy speeches must listen to this advice from the book: "On the average, they remember 10 percent from a talk. So take control. Decide what you want them to remember.

As for Churchill, his last sentence is unforgettable: "This was their finest hour.

The book offers the reader the finest moments with these superstar speakers. More important, it challenges us to find out for ourselves what our passion is and fires our soul. This is not just a how-to book. It is one that drives you inside your soul and makes your heart miss a beat.

What you find inside must so astonish you that you are close to your own "turning point."

(dantemv@i-next.net)

Sausage shops find key to growth is flexibility and diversification

CALIFORNIA Academy trained chef Dino Guingona was selling vegetables to the Shangri-La Hotel chain when in one of his transactions, then executive chef See Yong Chee, mentioned the name of competitor and fellow supplier Dutch national Aernout Tierie of Holland Tulips.

Out of mere curiosity, Guingona set an appointment with Tierie to discuss the possibility of forming an alliance. The bone of contention being that the market for high quality vegetables was too tight for several major suppliers and cornering that market seemed logical.

It was March 2000. Aernout surfed the Net with child-like enthusiasm in pursuit of importable produce from his homeland. He chanced upon a sausage maker who churned out quality charcuterie products on a small "backyard"-type operation.

Samples were promptly flown in and negotiations for wholesale purchases were in the works.

The first meeting between the two gentlemen took place on the second week of March 2000. After the formalities, the two men proceeded to explore possibilities. At the end of their first meeting, both readily agreed that the sausage market was untapped and ready for a major player.

An extensive research and product development ensued. Tierie and Guingona embarked on an aggressive short- and long-term plan to capture a substantial portion of the domestic sausage retailing business. The strategy was cutthroat and simple: Open up as many outlets in the best possible locations, in the shortest possible time span. This would dissuade potential competitors from entering the rat race.

Burger joints and noodle houses were in every nook and cranny of the city. The dizzying pace had converted everything from multilevel malls to mixed-use mezzanines in office buildings into convenient fast-food centers. There seemed to be little doubt that the upscale fast-food industry was in for a boom.

First outlet

The first Holland Sausage outlet began operations on May 2000 at the SM Southmall in Las Piñas. Guingona handled day-to-day operations and Aernout took care of logistical concerns.

Together, they set up a simple cart type operation to test the market. A 2.5- x 1.5-meter cart manned by three shifts was set in place. It yielded an average daily gross sales of P25,000.

A larger kiosk-type outlet soon followed at the Shangri-La Plaza along the Ortigas Center, and another cart at the Landmark, Makati, was set up. By then, Holland Sausage in SM Makati, SM Megamall, and Festival Mall in Filinvest were quickly built. The organization was expanding its retailing operations to include a full dine-in facility as negotiations were in the works to locally manufacture the sausages. Wholesaling and franchising became realistic options as well.

On the seventh month of operations, doors began to open. Robinson's Place in Manila ushered in a new era in the history of Holland Sausage as it marked the first time the organization ventured in a full-scale dine-in facility.

The restaurant at the Rockwell Center quickly followed. At this point, the company had a daily average gross sales of P130,000 with 10 outlets spread all over Metro Manila or an average of P13,000 per outlet.

Impeachment trial

When all seemed rosy, the Estrada impeachment trial began. There was unrest. The political climate was not stable. Radical elements seeking to further destabilize the peace and order situation orchestrated bombing activities in malls. The repercussions were devastating to the retailers. Food retailers were not spared. The peso took a sharp plunge against the US dollar. Fuel prices were soaring and there was widespread perception that government was not in control. As if adding insult to injury, a huge meat supplier attempted to smuggle in quick frozen beef from Ireland. The timing could not have been worse. Agriculture in and around England suffered from the effects of the dreaded mad cow disease.

The Philippine media went on a rampage. Although safe from this disease, Filipinos developed a strong sense of fear from ingesting beef. And then, the foot and mouth disease followed, exacerbating the situation.

People Powers II and III followed, and the cash flow was beginning to tighten. Sales were dropping alarmingly low and drastic measures had to be undertaken. The painful decisions had to be made: Close all non performing outlets and streamline operations, cut labor cost considerably, improve food cost and tighten belts if Holland Sausage is to survive these turbulent times.

One by one, outlets were closed down—Filinvest, SM Makati, and then SM Megamall supermarket.

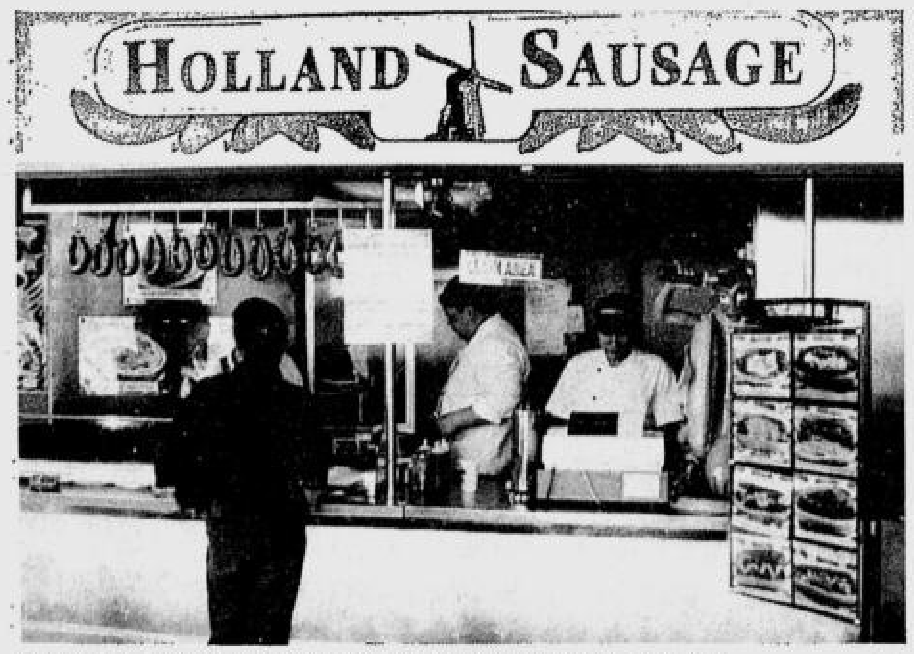
There were five outlets remaining out of the original 10 when Holland Sausage launched a brand new chicken line at the Rockwell Center outlet. The extensive chicken line was intended to draw attention from the tainted image of the European sausage product. It seemed like a long shot. It was a complete deviation from the original concept. But to Guingona, it meant the very survival of Holland Sausage. At this point, management was desperate and willing to wager its last centavo on anything that sounded remotely sensible. On May 2001, Holland Sausage successfully launched a new chicken line inviting a select and appreciative crowd. Guests were treated to a gastronomic fare of chicken dishes. A new customer base was built almost overnight.

Holland Sausage outlets at the Robinson's Place in Ermita, Glorietta IV, Shangri-La Plaza, Rockwell Center and the Landmark began to draw renewed enthusiasm despite the economic times.

Sales figures are presently comparable with that of the initial months with half the number of outlets as well as half the number of employees.

"It seems like the worst is over for now," remarks Guingona with a sigh. "But we must continue to be inventive, flexible and strong as we face bigger challenges that lie ahead."

Holland Sausage is presently building full dine-in outlets at the Greenbelt, Makati, and the brand new Eugenio Lopez Jr. Commercial Center along Mother Ignacia, Quezon City.



HOLLAND Sausages sell an average of P13,000 per outlet.

STA. LUCIA president and chief executive officer Exequiel Robles with his seven siblings and mother Dominga.

From errand boy . . .

(From page B1)

He was only 19 years old and working on his business administration degree at the San Sebastian College.

Robles, however, had no choice but take up the reins of the company because in a span of only six months, the founders of Sta. Lucia, including his father, Buenaventura, passed away.

The eldest of eight children, Robles had to grow up fast and become something of an instant expert in real estate.

Difficult beginnings

"My father's death at only 62 years old was unexpected. He did leave us some money but he also left behind a lot of debts that we had to pay. My mother was a homemaker, so I was the only one left to take the cudgels for my family. I was the eldest and our youngest sister was only four years old," he recalls.

Robles said he had to learn the trade almost from scratch because his father failed to teach him the secrets of the trade. But what he lacked in technical knowledge of the real estate business, he made up for with a lot of common sense and the drive to succeed.

"I started by simply buying and selling lots around our area in Pasig using the money left behind by our father. Real estate development was not really too competitive at that time because there were only a few players. What I did was look around for available lots and then turn around and sell them for a quick profit," he says.

He employed the help of his older siblings and cousins who were also left behind by one of their parents. They supported him whenever he had a prospect he wanted to pursue.

"I don't think I would have been able to do as well as I did if I did not get the support of my family and cousins at the start. Otherwise, we would still be arguing up to now," he stresses.

From buying and selling land, he started to think big and in 1979, ventured into raw land development with the Pasig Greenland subdivision as his first project. He was turning 25 and newly married.

Robles says his youth was both a blessing and a barrier. Being young, he had a lot of energy to build a company, but at the same time it was difficult to convince people that he meant business, especially since he had to convince people to spend their life savings to buy a piece of property that he developed.

"I have to take extra effort to convince the landowners that I will really pay for their property. On the buyers side, they don't immediately believe in what I am saying because they say that I am too young. I can't really blame them because we are talking about their life savings," Robles relates.

Rapid growth

Through sheer hard work, a lot of luck and the full support of the family, Robles and his cousins were able to grow Sta. Lucia from a one-room company to a multibillion-peso firm in just two and a half decades later.

After Pasig Greenland, Sta. Lucia embarked on other upscale subdivisions in Eastern Metro Manila: Marikina and Cainta Greenland, Vista Verde Country Homes and San Mateo Newtown. It also built the Acropolis Greens in Libis, Xavierville III, Vista Real and Palos Verdes Garden Heights in Antipolo, Rizal.

Today, Sta. Lucia is considered the biggest real estate company in terms of land holdings, with its 100 subdivisions in Cavite, Bulacan, Davao, Pangasinan, Iloilo and Baguio, eight golf courses and a mall in Cainta.

"Real estate is a good business to be in because there is always demand for a housing. The secret is to improve the terms and to give a good project. The key is to be honest, always promise only what you can give to the customer," he says.

Robles also attributes the success of Sta. Lucia to his determination to always finish what he starts and to never leave a problem unsolved.

"Don't cry over problems, just take them as they come and try to solve them the best way you can. But there will be times that you will just have to take things as they come," Robles says.

He relates, for instance, a time when Sta. Lucia was duped of close to P40 million "when we bought a property that was not actually there or the seller was not the actual owner of the property.

"These are some of the pitfalls in this industry but overall, I would say that it is a good business despite these difficult times. What you can just do is to lengthen the amortization period or lower the monthly payments," Robles says.

Sta. Lucia chose many of the projects on the basis of gut feel backed up or validated by studies. It did not pay off with some projects as he considered some as "flops" but the successes outweighed the failures.

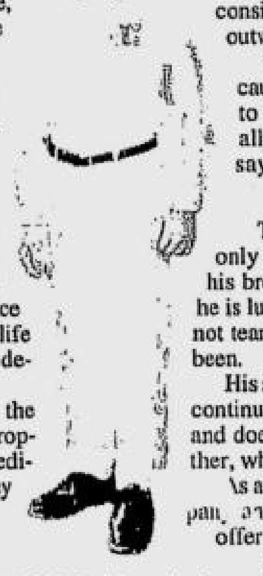
"We focused on the middle market because this is the market that will continue to grow and these are the people who really want to have their own homes," he says.

Solid family

The growth of the Sta. Lucia group has only strengthened the bond between Robles, his brothers and sisters and cousins. He says he is lucky that the success of the company did not tear the family apart as other families have been.

His sister Annie says it may be because Excy continues to put in more than 12 hours in his job and does everything to grow the company further, which earned him the family's trust.

As a result, Sta. Lucia remains a private company and has not given in to the temptation to offer shares to the public through an initial public offering, saying that they want to finance their own growth, slowly but surely.



EXCY Robles during his elementary days

Malls work at providing . . .

(From page B3)

now deployed to check cars and packages.

The Ayala group also increased janitors and cleaning personnel, saying that they are usually the ones who first notice any suspicious package.

"We also have a closed circuit TV in all the critical areas to ensure the safety of the people who go to the malls. We also have regular security bulletins that we distribute to the tenants so that they will know of any new gangs or criminal syndicates that can be potential security threats," she said.

The security measures implemented by these malls are replicated by smaller establishments across the Philippines. Even in urban centers in the provinces such as Cebu and Davao, malls have increased their security and have increased awareness toward customer safety.

As Lim said, providing a safe and comfortable mall is the only way to get tenants and customers coming in.

Save a few pesos, risk your lives

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

ASENIERO

IN COMBATING the sale of substandard and underweight LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) tanks in the local market, industry players are realizing that educating consumers rather than raising fines on violators is more effective in stamping out this malpractice.

LPG Industry Association Inc. president Joselito C. Aseniero said that no amount of fines or penalties would rid the market of its bad apples as long as consumers would continue to patronize them.

Aseniero said government and local government units do not have the resources to monitor more than 140 refillers and 10,000 retail outlets nationwide.

He said the best way to solve this problem was to have well-informed consumers who, apprised of the inherent dangers of and losses from tampered tanks, would avoid these substandard goods.

Aseniero said the LPGIA wanted to send a message telling consumers that buying cheap, unbranded or fake LPG brands might save them few pesos, but they could also be putting their loved ones in serious danger as well as getting less for what they actually paid for.

The industry's problems of safety and underfilling started with the deregulation of the oil industry three years ago when the government failed to draw up adequate rules to regulate the sale and refilling of LPG tanks in the country.

With the market opened to new players, the number of refillers in the industry exploded and the authorities were overwhelmed by the sheer number of brands sold and retailers selling these products in the country.

Aseniero said fly-by-night refillers hoarded a significant chunk of the estimated 12 million LPG cylinders in the market, painted them and stamped their own brands.

Due to the lack of government monitoring, Aseniero said these unscrupulous traders generally use rusty, old tanks which were merely painted over.

The LPGIA urges buyers to check if the tank collar (which protects the valve) is stable; if there are dents in the footring; and if the body has signs of corrosion or bulges. For peace of mind, LPGIA said buyers should only buy from authorized dealers, refillers and retail outlets only.

Unlike other goods, Aseniero said the packaging of LPG should be a major concern to buyers because substandard or defective cylinders that could not adequately support pressure could trigger gas leaks that might result in potential fire accidents. This is why LPG cylinders undergo periodic re-testing.

More often than not, Aseniero said these virtual fire hazards are under-filled. For example, Aseniero said traders buy in bulk and put them in retail size tanks for sale.

Aseniero said a popular under-filling practice was the 7-11 where traders use 50 kilograms of LPG to fill up seven 11-kg. LPG tanks. "Even if the traders sell their substandard goods at low prices, they would still make a killing because the buyers are actually getting less." This is why retailers are required to have weighing scales in their stores to ensure that buyers are getting what they paid for.

Between the two major problems, Aseniero said the LPGIA has prioritized the clamp down on the sale of tampered and defective tanks. "I think that traders responsible enough to sell LPG in quality cylinders would also sell at the correct weight," Aseniero said.

"If we succeed in informing the public of the risks and losses in buying fake or tampered LPG, all the unscrupulous traders in the industry would be out of business," Aseniero said. The LPGIA has put up eight task forces to conduct aggressive information campaign nationwide (such as info clips in movie houses and distribution of leaflets in public places).

The LPGIA's education campaign is being complemented by the government's efforts to weed out the cheats in the industry. The Department of Energy and the Department of Trade and Industry have signed a memorandum of understanding for the strict enforcement of LPG standards.

Investors get in touch . . .

(From page B1)

to think they are smarter than their peers, is the final factor behind the strategy.

It's back to school for investors

University of Arizona's Strahilevitz and Dan Ariely, a marketing professor at MIT's Sloan School of Management, are researching parallels between the way people react to physical pain and the way they deal with the shock of investment losses.

"Investors are more interested in investor psychology than they were before because a lot of people were saying, 'God, I am such a freaking genius. I am planning to retire at 35,'" said University of Arizona's Strahilevitz said. "Now people are saying 'Oh my God, how could I fall for this? I need help.'"

In one experiment, Ariely used a body suit that circulated hot and cold water over volunteers to study their reactions to pain and pleasure. So far, the researchers are finding that type of emotion isn't all that different from the ups and downs of investing.

"We do know there are people who are just walking around like they have been hit on the head with a piano because they lost all their net worth," Strahilevitz said. "And there does also seem to be a healing process."

She has rewarded volunteers who respond to her 15-minute online surveys with free T-shirts or money toward charities. Strahilevitz, who advertises the surveys on message boards, has noticed responses have dwindled as the market heads south.

"We started in a bull market and the one thing that was amazing is how everybody responded to our survey. I would put out one little notice on one little message board and the next day we would have a ton of responses," she said. "Now you go to the same message board and it's like pulling teeth." *Reuters*

Malls work at providing worry-free shopping

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

AYALA Land Inc. conducts regular fire drills at the malls as part of their fire safety procedures

AT THE height of the Philippines' Muslim insurgency problem last year, bombs went off at a washroom in a popular department store and at a Makati mall one early morning. These twin incidents caused the Philippine stock market to take a dive as residents and investors panicked. It took a while before hardy shoppers again packed the malls and cars filled the large parking spaces.

Just recently, a fire razed Virra Mall, one of the country's oldest shopping malls and a favorite watering hole of bargain hunters. More recent is the burning of the Manor Hotel in Quezon City where 75 people died.

The rash of bombings and recent fires brought into sharp focus the need to step up the security measures to protect the thousands of people who troop to the mall everyday. In the Philippines, going to the mall is certainly a way of life.

Local police deployed additional personnel to monitor the different shopping malls in Metro Manila and the country's top shopping malls—SM super stores owned by the family of taipan Henry Sy, Robinsons of tycoon John Gokongwei and the Ayala malls owned by the Spanish conglomerate Ayala Corp.—did their part.

Robinsons

Tommy O, vice president for complex administration of Robinsons Land Corp., said in an interview that the bombings last year heightened their security consciousness but said Robinsons has always been prepared for any emergency situation.

"We have a security plan in place and it involves everything from fire to earthquake safety to dealing with bomb threats and even medical emergencies," O said.

For fire, O said Robinsons conducts regular fire drills for both office personnel and the different tenants of the malls. Robinsons gets experts on fire-fighting methods from the Philippine National Police to conduct regular seminars.

O added that Robinsons regularly inspects the tenants to make sure they comply with Robinsons' safety standards.

"We look at the tenants and we have a checklist of what to go through. We make sure that the tenants do not pack their merchandise near any light or electrical source. We also prohibit them from storing anything in the ceiling since it might also cause fire. Even the grease traps of the restaurants are checked," O said.

O said even the parking areas are regularly checked to make sure there are no flammable equipment. Sprinklers are checked to make sure that they will work when the fire alarm goes off. Even helium-filled balloons are not allowed to be brought in by any of its 400 tenants because these are flammable. Only air-filled balloons are used.

"We also have a ready fire brigade for the mall and they are trained. They are there to help evacuate people in case of a fire," O said.

But it's not all about just fire. Robinsons has a clinic where customers needing medical assistance can avail of first aid. It also developed partnerships with the nearby hospitals so that a Robinsons' client can be immediately whisked off in case of more serious concerns.

"We have a procedure for every conceivable problem. We have to anticipate because many people come here. Anything can happen but we make sure that we have a system in place so that we are always prepared for the worst scenario," O said.

SM group

For the SM group, the Philippines' largest chain of shopping malls and supermarkets, security has always been of utmost concern because business can continue only if the tenants and the customers feel safe about the mall.

Jeffrey Lim, SM vice president for finance and administration, said fire safety is among the top concerns of the group. It is at the center, he said, of the group's safety manual.

"We have simulation exercises with the fire department and the defense department. We do this because we put our emphasis on preventive measures. We regularly inspect our offices and our tenants for the compliance with our safety standards," he said.

With the bombings last year, Lim said the SM group beefed up its security force to man both the periphery and the critical public areas of the stores. They are shown colored pictures of bombs so that they will be aware of the threats.

They even increased the number of janitors because they are the ones who regularly check the garbage bins for possible bombs.

"We usually get authorities from outside because we know that we need expertise for these kinds of incidents. We do line formation of the security guards and roving guards everyday to brief them on the latest developments, in case there is an alert," Lim said.

MALLS have standard operating procedures in case of fire to protect their customers.

The increased safety measures have made frisking an everyday occurrence because the malls did not let down their guard even if the political situation has long stabilized.

"We tell everybody that we should always take extra care. We should not ignore safety standards. These should not be taken for granted," he said.

"We have to be very conscious about security because we need to provide our consumers with peace of mind. With our security measures, consumers are rest assured that they are safe in our malls," he said.

Ayala malls

To ensure quick response to fire threats, the Ayala Center has put in place its own fire fighting brigade with its own fire fighting equipment including breathing apparatus, two fire trucks and trained firefighters.

"I am proud that our fire brigade was given a plaque of appreciation by the Makati City government for helping not only our malls but other establishments here in Makati," said Rowena Tomeldan, Ayala assistant vice president for commercial centers.

The Ayala center malls also have a building management system in place wherein the officers can immediately tell which area has a fire threat. Tomeldan said this was again part of the Ayala group's thrust toward quick response to fire threats to ensure the least amount of damage.

"We also have a direct line to the police departments and the bomb disposal units in Makati City so that we will get immediate assistance from them," Tomeldan added.

The malls and the tenants leasing space are required to comply with fire standards, and Ayala monitors regularly. There are fire and earthquake drills and everybody is required to attend.

"We comply with all the codes set by the government and we also have our own. We have smoke alarms and sprinklers as well as the usual fire extinguishers placed in critical areas. We also ensure that there is a ready source of water in case of fire," Tomeldan said.

Just like the other malls, the Ayala center beefed up security since the Dec. 30 bombings last year. More guards were posted at the entrances and customers are frisked before they enter the mall. Even K-9 dogs are

MALLS/B2

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- Cost Acctng. background an advantage

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- BS Accountancy graduate
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Onésimus Corporation
2/F 616 Boni Avenue, Mandaluyong City
(Meralco Bldg., Beside UCPB)

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Requires individuals who can make a high impact on sales and is able to oversee branch operations functions such as inventory control and management, cashiering, and accounting. Degree holders, preferably in a business course. Willing to be assigned anywhere.

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Please Indicate LOCATION and POSITION ON THE ENVELOPE or IN THE E-MAIL SUBJECT.

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MSI Digiland

NOTICE OF LOSS

This is to inform the public that MSI Digiland (Phils.), Inc. Sales Invoice 033581 was lost during delivery.

MSI Digiland (Phils.), Inc. will not honor any transactions using the said document.

(PDI--Aug. 26, 2001)

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G/F, Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City

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M/F, 21-28 y/o; graduate of a four-year course preferably Mass Comm.; with excellent oral and written communication skills; must be good in Public Speaking; highly computer literate; can handle pressure and adapt to different situations; must be willing to be assigned in Metro Manila, in the province and/or in depressed areas.

✧ COORDINATORS ✧

M/F, 21-35 y/o; graduate of a Business course preferably major in Management; proficient in oral and written communication; computer literate; must be flexible, can handle pressure and willing to do field works; sales experience is an advantage.

✧ CORPORATE PRESENTORS ✧

M/F, 21-35 y/o, graduate of a four-year course preferably Mass Comm.; with relevant work experience in similar capacity; excellent in oral and written communication skills and must be good in Public Speaking; computer literate; must be flexible, can handle pressure and willing to be assigned to field works.

✧ PERSONNEL OFFICER/SUPERVISOR ✧

M/F, 30-40 y/o; a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science/Studies or Human Resource Management; a Master Degree is an advantage; with minimum of 3 yrs. experience in similar capacity handling all facets of HR works.

✧ FIELD AUDITORS ✧

M/F, not more than 40 y/o; graduate of BS in Accountancy and must be a CPA; with at least 2 years relevant work experience.

✧ PURCHASING ASSISTANT ✧

Female, 21-35 y/o; a graduate of a four year course; with relevant work experience and must have contacts with the suppliers.

✧ ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER ✧

Female, 25-30 y/o; a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or other related course. organized, assertive, and quick-minded; can deal with deadline-oriented environment.

✧ SALES & MARKETING OFFICERS ✧

M/F, 21-35 y/o; graduate of Mass Comm. or Comm. Arts; with relevant work experience; must have knowledge in various Marketing Strategies and a good conversationalist.

✧ SALES REPRESENTATIVES ✧

M/F, 21-35 y/o; graduate of Business Management, Marketing, Advertising or Mass Comm.; proficient in oral and written communication; with relevant work experience.

✧ ACCOUNTING CLERK ✧

M/F, 21-35 y/o; preferably a graduate of BS in Accountancy; with or without experience.

✧ EDITOR/ASST. EDITOR/EDITORIAL STAFF ✧

M/F, not over 35 y/o; holder of Bachelor's Degree in Journalism, Mass Comm. or English Comm. Arts; preferably with background in Business Administration Management; computer literate; creative, has keen eyes for details and must have relevant working experience in publication.

✧ GRAPHIC DESIGNER ✧

M/F, 21-30 y/o; graduate of BS Fine Arts, Graphic Design or equivalent; proficient with Desktop Publishing Software (Photoshop, Illustrator, CorelDraw, PageMaker, Freehand, etc.); creative, has keen eyes for details and must have relevant working experience in publication.

✧ PROGRAMMERS ✧

Male, not more than 27 y/o; must be a graduate of Comp. Scie,/Com. Eng or ECE; with at least 3-yrs. relevant work experience in the following applications: SQL Server 7 or 2000, Microsoft Access 2000 or XP Visual Basic, Internet Development, JAVA ASP, Crystal Report Version 6, knowledge in Database Administration & Computer programming an advantage, Windows Operating System (1998 NT / 2000 Professional). Proven ability to work with a team/ long hours and can work under pressure.

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Male, not more than 27 y/o, must be a graduate of Bachelor of Science in Comp. Scie. / Comp. Eng'g. With 2-3 years in-depth experience in web development using Microsoft Technologies: ASP, IIS, VB Script: Access, SQL Server, Visual Interdev/Ultradev. Strong knowledge in HTML and JAVA Script Hardcoding as well as Cross-browser Development. Proven ability to work with a team/ long hours and can work under pressure.

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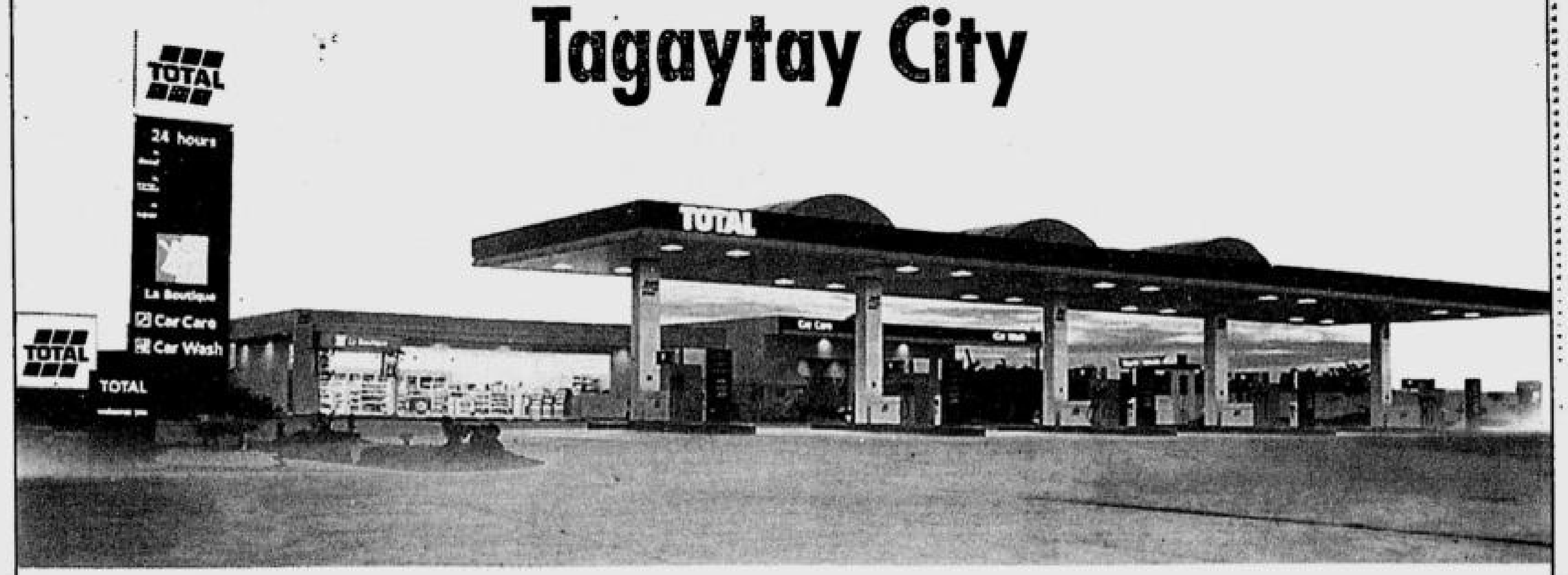

Everyone has dreams. But only the selected few have what it takes to make them come true. These are the determined. Those who will not bend under the heavy wind of fate. If you're one of them, TOTALFINAELF PHILIPPINES CORPORATION needs you to be part of a special group of extraordinary entrepreneurs who will run our service stations around Luzon and throughout the nation. Be a TOTAL retailer. Come aboard and help us fulfill our dreams as we help fulfill yours.

We're also looking for dealers who are willing to invest their time, a small parcel of land and some money in our dream.

We invite you to attend the applicants' orientation on **August 29, 2001, 10:00 a.m. at the 30th Floor, Urban Bank Plaza, Sen. Gil Puyat Ave. corner Don Chino Roces Ave., Makati City.**

Call TOTALFINAELF PHILIPPINES CORPORATION and look for Ms. Cheen de Mesa of the Retail Division at (02) 849-0701 or Mr. Frazer Aleta at 0918-9092116 for confirmation of attendance.

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- Obtain Citizenship Status for the whole family
- Chance to Sponsor / Petition your family members

FIND OUT THROUGH OUR SEMINARS IF YOU MEET THE CRITERIA FOR IMMIGRATION AND TURN YOUR DREAMS INTO REALITY

SEMINAR DETAILS

ILOILO CITY
Date : September 1, 2001 (Sat.) 2:00 PM
Venue : AMIGO TERRACE HOTEL Iznart-Delgado Sts. Iloilo City
Contact Person : INS MIS @ RM 210 Magdalena Commercial Center, J.M. Basa St., Iloilo City
Tel. Nos. : (033) 508-7143; 508-7137; 336-1883
Fees : P650 Prepaid; P850 Walk-in

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY
Date : September 1, 2001 (Sat.) 2:00 PM
Venue : DYNASTY COURT HOTEL Tiano-Hayes Sts., Cagayan de Oro City
Contact Person : INS MIS@ 2nd Floor R.M. Building Abejuela St., Cagayan de Oro City
Tel. Nos : (088) 858-2715; (08822) 729 026; 729-416
Fees : P650 Prepaid; P850 Walk-in

DIRECT CONSULTATIONS

DAGUPAN CITY
August 28, 2001 (Wed.) 9:00 AM-5:00 PM • Call: INS MIS @ 2/F Consuelo Building, M.H. Del Pilar St., Dagupan City • (075) 522-7625; 515-4973; 515-2716; (0918) 910-2394

LAOAG CITY
August 29, 2001 (Wed.) 9:00 AM-5:00 PM • Contact Person: Analyn Dayag • Call : INS OFFICE @ 28 MC BUILDING, Barangay 13 General Segundo Avenue, Laoag City • (077) 771-3310; (0919) 910-2394

LEGAZPI CITY
August 29, 2001 (Wed.) 9:00 AM-5:00 PM • Contact Person: Amy Mellitante • Call : INS OFFICE @ Legazpi Shopping Mall, Stall D-3 Rizal St., Old Albay District, Legazpi City • (052) 245-5641; 820-8168; 480 3946

ILOILO CITY
August 29, 2001 (Wed.) 9:00 AM-5:00 PM • Call : INS MIS @ RM 210 Magdalena Commercial Center, J.M. Basa St., Iloilo City • (033) 336-1883, 508-7137; 508-7143

Direct Consultation Fees for Provincial Offices P750 for any 2 countries • P1000 for 4 countries
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Tel. Nos.: 891-5686 to 89 • 891-5920 to 21

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ILOILO CITY
Date : September 1, 2001 (Sat.) 2 PM
Venue: AMIGO TERRACE HOTEL

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY
Date : September 1, 2001 (Sat.) 2 PM
Venue: DYNASTY COURT HOTEL

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Transportation and Communications
CIVIL AERONAUTICS BOARD
OLD MIA ROAD, PASAY CITY,
METROMANILA

IN RE: APPLICATION FOR AUTHORITY TO OPERATE AS AN INTERNATIONAL AIRFREIGHT FORWARDER) CAB CASE NO. EP - 20489

TRANCY LOGISTICS PHILIPPINES, INC.) Applicant.

x————————————x

NOTICE OF HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of R.A 776, as amended, notice is hereby given that **TRANCY LOGISTICS PHILIPPINES, INC.** has filed an application before the Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) for an Authority to Operate as an International Airfreight Forwarder. The initial hearing of the above-entitled case will be held on **28 August 2001 at 10:00 A.M.** at the Conference Room of the CAB, Old MIA Road, Pasay City before the undersigned Hearing Officer, at which hearing, the applicant shall present its evidence.

The applicant is hereby required to have this Notice of Hearing published once a week for three (3) consecutive weeks in a newspaper of general circulation, or that copies thereof and the application be sent to existing CAB certified airfreight forwarders either by personal service or with a registered mail with return card at least three days before the scheduled hearing.

Parties opposed to the granting of the application must file their written opposition on or before the date of the hearing, furnishing a copy of the same to the applicant and appear at the hearing with such evidence as may be proper in the premises. Failure on the part of any interested party to file its opposition on time and appear at the hearing will be construed as a waiver of its right to be heard and the Civil Aeronautics Board will proceed to hear and decide this application on its merit.

Let a copy of the Application and this Notice be posted at the CAB Bulletin Board beginning today.

30 July 2001
Pasay City, Philippines.

(Sgd.) **MANUEL A. MORENTE, JR.**
Chief, Legal & Enforcement Division

(PDI--Aug. 12, 19 & 26, 2001)

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DEMONSTRATION for this **Patent-Protected Process** shall be in a Mandaluyong hotel on **Sept. 1, 2001 (Sat.) Call Now** Phil @ **0919-3722767** or JC @ **09179986580** or **(074)3051281** for details. **First Call First Served Basis. Limited Franchises** only to ensure **Long term Profitability.**

INVITATION TO BID

Samar Island Biodiversity Project
PHI/99/G31

CONSULTING SERVICE

The project is implemented by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) under the auspices of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Global Environment Fund (GEF). It aims to protect a representative sample of the biodiversity in the Philippine archipelago through the establishment of the Samar Island Natural Park (SINP). The project will employ a community-based participatory regime as the main strategy in the management of the SINP.

The project requires the services of an individual or a firm to perform the following activities: 1) Procure satellite imagery of the land use and vegetative cover of the whole Samar Island; 2) Convert the digital imagery generated into useable vector format, specifically for ArcView 8.1; and 3) Convert existing GIS date of Samar Island from Atlas GIS to a format useable in ArcView 8.1.

The complete Terms of Reference (TOR) for this consultancy is posted at www.undp.org.ph/bc/.

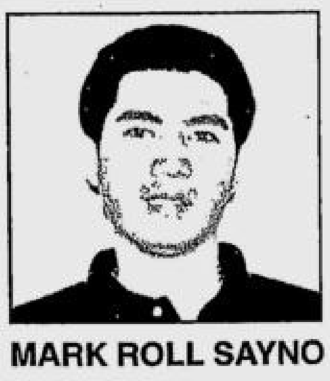
Interested parties should have a minimum of five years experience and a proven track record in remote sensing, geographic information system and mapping work/projects. They should submit five (5) copies of their company prospectus with information on the following: services offered; applications experience; qualifications of key personnel, along with samples of their work. They should also submit five (5) copies of their detailed proposal for the conduct of the above-mentioned activities in sealed envelopes marked "Detailed Technical Proposal"; and five (5) copies of the financial proposal in sealed envelopes marked "Financial Proposal" on or before 1300 hours of 14 September 2001 to the addres below:

Development Support Services Center
United Nations Development Programme
7th Floor NEDA sa Makati Building
106 Amorsolo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier)

P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box
1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail)

Tel. Nos. (632) 892-4528, 892-0611 to 25, Fax Nos. (632) 816-4061, 893-9598
Email Address: bc_admin.ph@undp.org

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



MARK ROLL SAYNO

The Public is hereby notified that **MARK R. SAYNO**, whose picture appears above, and with last known addresses at #30 Guevarra St., Zone I, Dasmariñas, Cavite, and #20 San Gregorio Village, Daet, Camarines Norte, is no longer connected with **CHINA BANKING CORPORATION** as of October 30, 2000.

A case of **QUALIFIED THEFT** has been filed against him and a **WARRANT** for his **ARREST** has been issued in connection with Criminal Case No. B-2001-214 & 215, RTC, Branch 19, Bacoor, Cavite.

Information regarding his present whereabouts may be relayed through Telephone Nos. 885-5257, 885-5152, 885-5932.

CHINA BANKING CORPORATION

(PDI--Aug. 26, 2001)

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The Philippine Daily Inquirer enjoys the biggest circulation and readership among all the major broadsheets in the country. It has a dominant market share of over 50% according to the 1999 Asia Research Organization (ARO) Tri-Media Study.

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Official Depository Bank of the Republic of the Philippines

THIRD (3rd) INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID FOR THE SUPPLY, DELIVERY AND ASSEMBLY OF THE FOLLOWING:

a. Contract Package No. 13 : Four (4)-Drawer Lateral Files (Stand Alone) with Overhead File Cabinet, Four (4)-Drawer Lateral Files (Stand Alone) without Overhead Cabinet, Lateral Files (On Tracks with Fixed File Cabinet) and Open File Shelves;
b. Contract Package No. 13A File Compactors; and
c. Contract Package No. 13B File Cabinet for Maps and Index Cards

All corporations registered with the Philippine Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), with extensive experience in the supply, delivery and assembly of lateral files and compactors for office buildings, are invited to apply for pre-qualification, and bidding for Contract Package Nos. 13, 13A & 13B for the new LBP Headquarters Building in Malate, Manila, with the following schedule:

Issuance of Pre-Qualification Form	Pre-Qualification Conference	Issuance of Notices of Pre-qualification/Pre-disqualification after:	Dates of Issuance of Notices of Pre-qualification/Pre-disqualification	Issuance of Bid Documents	Pre-Bid Conference	Bidding Date
Aug. 27 to 30, 2001 @9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	Aug. 31, 2001 @10:00 AM	a. Evaluation of Pre-qualification Documents & Brochures	Sept. 12, 2001	Sept. 27, 2001 @9:00 AM to 2:00 PM	Sept. 28, 2001 @10:00 AM	Oct. 5, 2001 @10:00 AM
		b. Evaluation of Displays versus Brochures	Sept. 19, 2001			
		c. Selection of top choices from the displays by sub-Committee and Special Committee	Sept. 26, 2001			

All interested Suppliers may obtain the Pre-qualification forms from the LBP Ad Hoc Group Office, c/o Project Management and Engineering Department (PMED), 2F LBP Bldg. III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City, upon payment of a non-refundable processing fee of P1,400.00 for the new suppliers (those who did not secure the pre-qualification documents during the first and second invitations), and P700.00 for those who have secured/submitted pre-qualification documents during the first and second invitations. Only those suppliers who secured the pre-qualification documents shall be eligible to participate in the pre-qualification process.

After the pre-qualification conference, Suppliers shall be given three (3) calendar-days to signify in writing their interest to join the pre-qualification process by accomplishing the proforma Letter of Intent (LOI) included in the pre-qualification forms issued earlier. Attendance to the pre-qualification conference is among the requirements for pre-qualification.

Duly accomplished Pre-qualification forms shall be submitted to and received at the above-stated office not later than September 6, 2001, 3:00 PM, after which no documents will be accepted. All participating suppliers shall be notified in writing of the results of the pre-qualification.

Only pre-qualified suppliers may secure Bid Documents at the above-stated office/date upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P5,000.00.

Pre-Qualification and Pre-Bid conferences will be held on the above-stated date and time at the FMGSG Conference Room, 2F, LBP Bldg. III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.

Bidding shall be conducted using the two (2) envelope system (envelopes "A" & "B") to be submitted to and received not later than 10:00 AM on October 5, 2001 (the Bidding Date). Bidding shall be held at the FMGSG Conference Room, 2/F, LBP Bldg. III, 315 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Makati City.

LBP reserves the right to change the date of issuance of bid documents, pre-bid conference and bidding date. Due notice of changes shall however be communicated by LBP to pre-qualified bidders.

LBP likewise reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect or formality, assume no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expense/loss that they may incur during the preparation of their bids, and to accept the bid that is most advantageous to the Bank.

(Sgd.) **ANTONIO T. HERNANDEZ**
Chairman
Sub-Committee for LBP HQ Bldg. Project

(PDI – Aug. 25, 26 & 27, 2001)

The Metroclub

INVITATION TO BID

The Metropolitan Club, Inc. ("Metroclub") wishes to announce the sale of a portion of its property with an area of approximately 1,000 sq.m. located along Gumamela Street, Makati City at an indicative price of P50,000,000.00.

Sealed bids should be accompanied by a bid bond in the amount of P2,000,000.00 in form of cashier's check payable to "The Metropolitan Club, Inc." and addressed to the President of Metroclub on or before 3:00 p.m., **September 19, 2001**. The sale shall be subject among other things to approval by majority of the membership of Metroclub during the next annual membership meeting tentatively scheduled for **October 15, 2001**.

Interested parties are requested to secure the Bidding Guidelines for a fee of P2,500.00 from the Office of the President, The Metropolitan Club, Estrella Street, Makati City. Telephone numbers **895-9986** to **89** or **896-0206** and Facsimile number **896-6816**.

(PDI - Aug. 26, 2001)

People, Events & Products

ARIES B. ESPINOSA, Assistant Editor

MONDEX CARD AT REPLAY STORE
Mondex Card, the 'wallet' of the future, gets you up in the hippest styles at Replay Store at level 2 of the Shangri-La Edsa Plaza Mall. Step into the trendiest fashions of the upbeat generation, and pay up using the country's most innovative e-cash card. Purchase your own Mondex Card by going to any of the Mondex top-up stations inside the mall, and load it up with electronic cash for a more convenient and totally secure shopping experience. Plus, avail of the Mondexclusives Rewards Program and earn rewards points every time you shop with Mondex Card. Shown is Jeffrey Fargas, Mondex Philippines marketing services specialist (left) together with Replay store salespersons.

DIPLOMATIC KAPIHAN
Former United Nations Assistant Secretary General and Senator Leticia Ramos Shahani (second from right) presents to Indian Ambassador Santindar Kumar Uppal a certificate of recognition from the World Affairs Forum for his successful mission in the country, during the Diplomatic Kapihan. At left is Secretary Eduardo R. Ermita, Presidential Adviser on the peace process, who gave an update on the negotiations between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front. At right is forum convenor D. Y. Caparas, publisher-editor of The Diplomatic Post and a former DFA assistant secretary.

CARDFINAL CONFERS PAPAL AWARDS
On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of His Eminence Jaime Cardinal sin as member of the College of Cardinals, he conferred Papal Awards for outstanding service to the church recently at the Manila Cathedral on those shown above (from left) Luis Reyes, Amelia Eres, Mathilde Beckers, Sonia Saldivar Ronda, Maria Isabel Fara Descallar, Leticia Mercado and Maria Victoria Roldan

Sun Life Financial launches new products

FOLLOWING the successful launching of its female products, Sun Milady and Sun Milady Plus, Sun Life Financial once again strengthens its grip in the marketplace through the launching of its two new riders – the hospital income benefit (HIB) rider and the accidental death, dismemberment and disablement rider (ADDD).

These new riders were specifically designed to provide value-added benefits to the company's policyholders by way of giving every Filipino family additional income for events that may require hospital confinement due to sickness or accidents. The cost of hospital confinement above other major expenses can be a burden and not being ready for it can add to a family's stress. The HIB will help defray the high cost of hospitalization.

HIB provides a daily hospital income in case the insured gets hospitalized up to a maximum of 1000 days. The daily hospital income is doubled in case the life insured is confined in the intensive care unit or is hospitalized due to dread disease.

The ADDD, on the other hand, helps lessen the anxieties caused by the potential loss of income due to an accident. It is Sun Life's way of helping one get on with his life even with the loss of a loved one.

The HIB and ADDD was launched in a sale event recently at the 32nd floor of The Enterprise Center along Ayala and Paseo de Roxas Avenues in Makati City to coincide with the 3rd year of the partnership between Sun Life Financial and Standard Chartered Bank (SCB). The event will feature signature brands like Ferragamo, Anne Klein, Nine West, among others which will be sold to all SCB-SL cardholders and non-cardholders with prices lowered by about 70 percent.

Sbarro 'back for more' card

AT Sbarro, you'll keep on coming back for more magnifico Italian cuisine. That's why on your first visit, you get a Back For More Card just for a minimum purchase of P175. So when you do come back, earn the necessary number of stamps and get Sbarro food products like Sbarro New York style pizzas, cakes and pastas absolutely free. So come and visit Sbarro and start earning those stamps. Sbarro the Italian Eatery has branches at SM City, SM Megamall, Glorietta 2, Robinson's Place and Festival Supermall.

BITS Clips

GM-Suzuki dealers

SUZUKI Philippines Inc. proudly announces the appointment of GM Autoworld Makati, GM Autoworld Quezon Avenue and GM Autoworld Shaw as full-line Suzuki Automobile dealers in Metro Manila. As full-line dealers, they are now designated as authorized dealers for the sale, service and parts supply of all Suzuki Philippines Inc. Automobile product lines. With this designation, GM Autoworld Makati, GM Autoworld Quezon Avenue and GM Autoworld Shaw can now sell and service the Suzuki Super Carry van, Bravo and Samurai in addition to the Grand Vitara 2.0L/2.5L and Vitara 1.6 models.

Marriage Encounter in Tagaytay

THE REACHING Out for the Lord (ROL) Series of the Tuklasan Sector-Marriage Encounter Foundation of the Phils. will sponsor another Marriage Encounter (ME) weekend from Sept. 7 to 9 at the Angels' Hill Seminar and Formation Center in Tagaytay City. The weekend seminar is ideal for married couples seeking fulfillment and rejuvenation from their marriages. The seminar also hopes to redirect their relationship viewed in the context of Christian love. The ecclesial members are Fr. Jess V. Fernandez, S.J., Mike-Inday Barretto and Gas-Olive Gaac. For reservations call Manny-Lira Cipriaso (562-6319; fax 563-1543; Albert-Vilma Sia (874-8818 a.m. only); Romy-Cora Clamor (847-4680 evening only); Gerry-Sheila Reglos (807-3338); Rey-Cristy Medina (802-8209 a.m. only); Freddie-Rachel de Leon (536-8451); Joe-Janet Saldaña (842-4349); and Bong-Zosie Fajardo (742-2434; 742-5981). Deadline for reservation is on Aug. 31.

Rotary launches artificial leg project

THE ROTARY Club of Makati Pasong Tamo has launched its "Free Artificial Leg Project" in collaboration with The Mahaveer Foundation. The objective of the Project is to provide artificial limbs to the poor who are physically impaired and help make a qualitative difference in their lives. The Rotary Club of Makati Pasong Tamo is now accepting applications for prosthesis grants at the office of the secretariat of the Club located at CCJS, 2nd floor, The Plaza Royale, 120 L.P. Leviste (formerly Alfaro) Street, Salcedo Village, Makati City. Call 812-5246 to 48 (Ante/Jackie) for further information. Interested parties may also fax at 892-7948 and e-mail ccjs@epic.net.

Northern Samar Electric Cooperative, Inc.
(NORSAMELCO)
Brgy. Magsaysay, Bobon, Northern Samar
CEL No. 0917-3619744

INVITATION TO BID

Norsamelco invites interested bidder to bid for the supply and delivery of treated wood pole (tannalized) for the construction of its distribution line. The wood poles to be supplied are Southern Yellow Pines or equivalent species. Below are the following sizes for wood pole to be supplied:

1. 25ft class 3 - 38 pcs.
2. 30ft class 3 - 165 pcs.
3. 35ft class 3 - 15 pcs.
4. Anchor logs : 133 pcs (4ft long)

Interested bidders are required to submit a letter of intent with company profile before a bid form is secured after a payment of one thousand pesos (P1,000.00) non refundable. A pre-bid conference is schedule on **September 10, 2001** at Norsamelco board room at 8:00 a.m. The final opening of bid is on **September 17, 2001** at 8:00 a.m.

All bidders are required to submit a bid bond in the amount of 10% of total price. Norsamelco has right to reject any bid, which seems disadvantageous to Coop.

(Sgd.) **HENRY C. BANJAWAN**
PBAC Chairman

Noted by:

(Sgd.) **RICARDO P. LARGO**
General Manager

(PDI - Aug. 25 & 26, 2001)

INQUIRER TRiViA

By BONG BARRAMEDA

"You have the right..."

Q. Why is the "Miranda doctrine" so named?

A. It's called the Miranda doctrine or warning because of a United States Supreme Court decision, *Miranda v. Arizona*, in 1966. Three years earlier, 22-year-old Ernesto Miranda was arrested for stealing $8 from a bank employee in Phoenix, Arizona. While in custody, he was picked up from a lineup by a young woman who said he had kidnapped and raped her. After two hours of interrogation, the police gained a confession from Miranda, which was used against him at his trial. The Supreme Court threw out the confession because Miranda had not been advised of his right against self-incrimination, which is guaranteed by the Fifth Amendment of the Bill of Rights of the US Constitution.

Classified Odd. After nine police officers on a drug raid at an apartment building in Coventry, England, squeezed into an elevator made for eight, it stalled. The officers wound up being trapped for 45 minutes until resident Eddie Laidle heard their cries for help. "I told them I would call the police," he said, "and they shouted, 'We *are* the bloody police -- get the fire brigade!'"

Think About It. How many days will it take you to count one billion pesos -- one peso at a time? A little over 11,574 days if you counted one peso every second, day and night, day after day, year after year, without stopping. That's close to 32 years of counting money.

WORD WATCH

Milyon : from the Spanish *millon*, which, in turn, derives from the Latin *mille*, 'thousand.'

PDI – Aug. 26, 2001

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OBITUARIES

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The husband, **Dr. Alfonso (Sonny) Aguirre**; daughters, **Dr. Laura Aguirre-Aguinaldo** and **Sarah Ma. Rosaria Aguirre**; son-in-law **Vincent P. Aguinaldo**; grandchildren, **Matthew Benedict** and **Hannah Beata Aguirre-Aguinaldo**; and other relatives of the late

Ambassador
SOLITA MARQUEZ AGUIRRE

(November 4, 1940 - July 19, 2001)

Wish to extend their

Heartfelt Gratitude

to all those who attended to her medical needs at the De la Salle University Medical Center and cared for her in the final phases of her illness; gave generously to the poor and to charities in her name; offered Masses and prayers for her; organized, attended, and eulogized her at memorial services held in Honolulu and New York, USA; sent flowers, attended the wake and the funeral; called up, sent letters and messages; and all those who for her sake, lovingly and sincerely turned their "laughter... into mourning and joy... into sorrow" (James 4:9); and showed us, her family, all manner of kindness, consideration, and sincere condolences.

May our Lord Jesus bless you all and may Solita rest in peace.

In Loving Memory

On the Fourth Death Anniversary of

ATTY. TITUS CLARIDAD VILLANUEVA, JR.

(20 January 1964 – 26 August 1997)

His wife **Nancy Grace**; children **Titus III**, **Marius Paul**, **Bianca Grace**; parents **Titus Sr. & Teresita**; brothers **Linus**, **Marcus**, **Remus**, and **Zeus**; sisters **Anna Tessa**, and **Ma. Vanessa**; sisters-in-law **Ritchie**, **Analee**, **Celia Aurora**; other relatives, and founding partners in Ground Specialists, Inc., request all the readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass shall be offered at the following churches:

	Church	Time
1.	**Our Lady of Annunciation Parish** *Mindanao Ave., Tandang Sora, Quezon City*	6:00 PM
2.	**Chapel of Holy Sacrifice** *U.P. Diliman, Quezon City*	12:00 NN
3.	**St. Ignatius Cathedral** *Camp Aguinaldo, Quezon City*	7:30 AM
4.	**Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish** *U.P. Village, Quezon City*	6:00 PM
5.	**Mother Mary of Good Counsel** *Marcelo Green Village, Parañaque City*	6:30 AM
6.	**Holy Trinity Parish** *Commonwealth Village, Quezon City*	10:00 AM
7.	**Blessed Sacrament Parish** *Brgy. Talipapa, Quezon City*	6:30 PM
8.	**San Nicolas de Tolentino Parish** *Congressional Village, Quezon City*	6:30 AM
9.	**San Juan de Nepomuceno Parish** *Sum-ag, Bacolod Parish*	6:30 AM
10.	**Sto. Domingo Parish** *Quezon Avenue, Quezon City*	6:30 AM

In thanksgiving to the Lord God Almighty for the long and productive life that He gave our beloved mother

Columba Avellanosa Villano

September 17, 1896 – August 25, 2001

who peacefully joined her Creator
and husband ***Mayor Quirico A. Villano, Sr.***
of San Jose del Monte, Bulacan at the age of 104.

We, her bereaved children **Hermie** and **Auring**, **Naldy** and **Naty**, **Letty** and **Clair Competente**, **Jun** and **Dorie**; grandchildren, great grandchildren and other relatives request the pious readers to join us in prayer for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Cosmopolitan Funeral Parlor, Davao City.

Cremation will be after the 8:30 a.m. Mass on Tuesday, August 28, 2001 at the Davao Memorial Park. Her cremated remains shall be brought to the San Jose del Monte (Bulacan) Parish Church where a memorial Mass shall be celebrated at 12:00 noon on Sunday, September 2, 2001.

Daily Masses shall be offered from August 28, 2001 to September 2, 2001 every 8:00 a.m. at San Jose del Monte (Bulacan) Parish Church and 12:00 noon at the Davao Doctors Hospital Chapel.

In Loving Memory

On the Second Death Anniversary of

CONCEPCION D. MAGCASI

Who joined our Creator
on August 26, 1999

Immeasurably missed and lovingly remembered by her children **Ebeng** and **Boc**, **Vener** and **Cora**, **Birut** and **Cherry**; grandchildren **Jocel**, **Miguel**, **Kenneth**, **Nicky** and **Malou**; relatives and friends.

Masses will be offered in all Sunday Masses at Sta. Rita Parish in Pampanga and Greenbelt Chapel in Makati. May we request all pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

ROLANDO G. PICACHE

Of San Juan, Metro Manila

Peacefully joined our Creator
on August 24, 2001 at the age of 55.

His mortal remains has been cremated to rejoin Mother Earth. Holy Mass will be offered tomorrow August 27, 2001 at 2:30 p.m. at the Loyola Memorial Chapel Guadalupe, Makati.

THE AUGUSTINIAN SISTERS
OF OUR LADY OF CONSOLATION

ANNOUNCE THE DEATH
OF

SR. REBECCA PROVIDA MAGBANUA, OSA

On August 24, 2001 at the age of 69.

Funeral Mass will be at 7:00 a.m. on August 26, 2001 at the La Consolacion Convent Chapel, 273 Santolan Road, San Juan, Metro Manila.

Interment will follow at the La Loma Cemetery.

JOSE "PEPOT" PICACHE ENRIQUEZ

LA SALLE, U.P., UPSILON SIGMA PHI
TOYM '66 AWARDEE
(1930 - 2001)

Peacefully joined his Creator on 24 August 2001.

Bereaved mother **REMEDIOS**; father **FELICISIMO SR.** (†); brother **JUN**; sister-in-law **LINA**; nephews and nieces **LIZ** and **FRANKLIN TARRONAS**, **ERWIN** and **CECILE**, **EILEEN** and **RAY ELIDO**, **EMELYN** and **BONG ANGELES**, **EUNICE** and **MIGUEL MALABUYO**, **APPLE** and **EMIL LIWANAG**; grandchildren, relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Santuario de San Jose Greenhills Parish Hall, East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City.

Masses will be celebrated every evening at 8:00 p.m.

Interment will be on Tuesday, August 28, 2001 at the La Loma Catholic Cemetery after the 2:00 p.m. Mass.

ENGR. RAYMUNDO A. MALLARI

Died in the Grace of our Lord on August 24, 2001 at the age of 46.

He is survived by his bereaved wife **Beth**; children **Em-Em**, **Mac-Mac**, and **Ric-Ric**; mother, brothers, sisters, relatives and friends, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at Nacional Memorial Homes (Chapel 2-A), 264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City.

Interment will be on Thursday, August 30, 2001 at Himlayang Pilipino Memorial Park after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Most Holy Redeemer Church.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late beloved

ANTONIO ZUMEL

who died in the peace of the Lord on August 13, 2001
in Utrecht, the Netherlands, and joined his parents into eternal life,
Antonio Zumel, Sr. *and* ***Bessie de Leon-Zumel,*** *and his son,* ***Antonio III***

would like to express our most profound gratitude to all the many friends, especially his comrades, and relatives who manifested their love and support at our bereavement.

May we also request the pious reader to say a little prayer for the eternal repose of his soul. God bless you all.

DRA. SOLEDAD G. LERMA

of Morong, Rizal

April 1, 1923 - August 24, 2001
78 years old

Her beloved husband **Luis** (†), children, grandchildren, relatives, request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Garden of Memories Memorial Chapel, Pasig City.

Interment will be on Wednesday, August 29, 2001 at the Morong Municipal Cemetery, Morong, Rizal.

Message of Thanks

We,
the family of the late

Engr. Adelaido R. Encarnacion

who joined our Creator
on August 8, 2001

wish to convey our sincerest gratitude and heartfelt appreciation to all of you who condoled with us, sent messages of sympathy, offered Masses, prayers and novenas and who, in countless ways, provided strength and comfort in our moment of grief.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

WE ACCEPT CREDIT CARDS and bank-to-bank payments

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
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For the needs of your departed Loved Ones the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027
ARLINGTON EAST
Raymundo St. cor. Mercedes Ave., San Miguel, Pasig City
Tels. 747-8599; 747-8609 • Telefax 641-1760
CAPITOL MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. 732-0309; 732-1095
CEBU ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Cebu Branch:
A.S. Fortuna Street, Banilad, Mandaue City, Cebu
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192
COSMOPOLITAN FUNERAL HOMES, INC.
Camus Ext. cor. J. Abad Santos, Davao City
Tels. (082) 227-1201; 227-1258

DAYAO FUNERAL HOME
#2 Bayani St., Galas, Quezon City
Tels. 740-2683; 781-3705; 781-3688;
413-9400; 715-5594
DALLUAY MEMORIAL SERVICES
#42 Upper Kalaklan, Olongapo City
Tels. (047) 222-3605; (047) 811-1086;
(047) 222-4512; (047) 224-2014
DON BOSCO CHAPELS
Pasay Road, Makati City
Tel. 894-5932 to 34
DULCE MEMORIAL SERVICES
Jose Abad Santos Ave. cor. Dinalupihan St.,
Manuguit, Manila
Tels. 712-5102; 741-5125; 741-5133
Fax No. 711-3064
FLORESCO FUNERAL HOME
219 Gen. Luna St., Concepcion, Malabon, Metro Manila
Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522

FUNERARIA PANGILINAN
Santo Entierro cor. P. Burgos St., Lourdes Sur, Angeles City
Tels. (045) 888-2959; (045) 322-5247
F. SANTIAGO MEMORIAL HOMES
13 V. Gomez St., San Roque, Marikina City; Tels. 646-1725/1730
FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City
Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602
GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila; Tels. 642-6181 to 82
HOLY TRINITY MEMORIAL CHAPELS
Sucat, Parañaque City Tels. 825-1296, 825-1291
LA FUNERARIA LAWRENCE BAQUIRAN
#27 Crisologo St., Vigan, Ilocos Sur
Tel. 722-2730; Cell (0917) 5680136, (0917) 5680145
Manila #23 Pato St., Project 2, Quezon City; Tel. 434-3258
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
1601 C.M. Recto Ave. cor. T. Mapua, Manila;
Tels. 711-6931 to 35; 732-4795

LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
143 G. Araneta Ave. cor. Kaliraya St., Quezon City;
Tels. 749-3806 to 11
LA FUNERARIA PAZ, INC.
79 Naguilian Rd., Baguio City; Tel. (074) 443-3337
LOYOLA MEMORIAL CHAPELS
EDSA cor. Bernardino St., Guadalupe, Makati City
Tel. 895-1011 to 19
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Arellano St., Dagupan City
Tels. (075) 515-5960; 515-6529; (0919) 348-7131
NACIONAL MEMORIAL HOMES
264 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 713-5231 to 35; 714-0867; 714-0868
ROLLING HILLS MEMORIAL CHAPELS INC.
Ground Flr. Rolling Hills Chapel, 27th-Lacson St.
Mandalagan, Bacolod City Tel. 433-7132

RIZAL FUNERAL HOMES
438 Cementina St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-1204
SANTUARIO DE SAN JOSE PARISH
East Greenhills, Mandaluyong City
Telefax 724-4139; 725-2044
ST. ALPHONSUS MARY DE LIGOURI PARISH
Magallanes Village, Makati City
Tels. 852-8228; 852-7284
ST. MARK MEMORIAL CHAPEL
16-15 G. Tuazon cor. Loreto St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tels. 749-3679; 781-1772
ST. PETER FUNERAL HOMES
296 Quezon Ave., Quezon City
Tels. 372-5084; 410-9286 / 87
VERONICA MEMORIAL HOMES
Official NBI Morgue 517-A Arnaiz St., Pasay City
Tels. 831-3797; 844-7846; 843-1801; 845-4836

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. 711-95-02/03, 743-83-01 loc: 1125, 1126

Invitation for Bids

Social Expenditure Management Project II
Department of Health, Philippines

Supply and Delivery of Various EPI Vaccines
IFB No. WB-SEMP2-2001-004

1. This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 564 of **August 16, 2001.**
2. The Government of the Philippines has applied for a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of Social Expenditure Management Project II, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for which this invitation for bids is issued.
3. The Department of Health now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of Various Expanded Program on Immunization (EPI) Vaccines.

Items	Unit	Quantity
1. BCG Vaccines + diluent	vials/ampules	292,500 vials
2. Oral Polio Vaccine w/ VVM	vials/tubes	578,600 vials
3. DPT Vaccine	vials	586,100 vials
4. Live Attenuated Measles Vaccine+diluent	vials	1,053,000 vials
5. Hepa B Vaccine	vials	200,900 vials
6. Tetanus Toxoid Vaccine	vials	456,900 vials

4. Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding a procedure specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement and Logistics Service and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Procurement and Logistics Service
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 711-6831
Telefax No. (632) 711-6712

6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000) or US$250 including air courier for foreign bidders. The method of payment will be cash, or bank draft. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below before 9:00 a.m. on **October 16, 2001.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of total bid. Late bids will be rejected outright and returned unopened to the bidder.
8. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bidding conference will be held at the following address at 9:00 a.m. on **September 25, 2001.**

Multi-Media Conference Room
Bldg. # 18, Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines

9. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address above at 9:01 a.m. of **October 16, 2001.**

By the authority of the Secretary of Health.
(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--Aug. 25, 26 & Sept. 2, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. 711-95-02/03, 743-83-01 loc. 1125, 1126

Invitation for Bids

Social Expenditure Management Project II
Department of Health, Philippines

Supply and Delivery of Oral Contraceptives
IFB No. WB-SEMP2-2001-003

1. This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 564 of **August 16, 2001.**
2. The Government of the Philippines has applied for a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of Social Expenditure Management Project II, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for which this invitation for bids is issued.
3. The Department of Health now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of Oral Contraceptives.

Items	Unit	Quantity
Oral Contraceptives	cycles	7,000,000

4. Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding a procedure specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement and Logistics Service and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Procurement and Logistics Service
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 711-6831
Telefax No. (632) 711-6712

6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000) or US$250 including air courier for foreign bidders. The method of payment will be cash, or bank draft. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below before 2:00 p.m. on **October 19, 2001.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of total bid. Late bids will be rejected outright and returned unopened to the bidder.
8. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bidding conference will be held at the following address at 2:00 p.m. on **September 28, 2001.**

Multi-Media Conference Room
Bldg.#18, Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines

9. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address above at 2:01 p.m. of **October 19, 2001.**

By the authority of the Secretary of Health:
(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – Aug. 25, 26 & Sept. 2, 2001)

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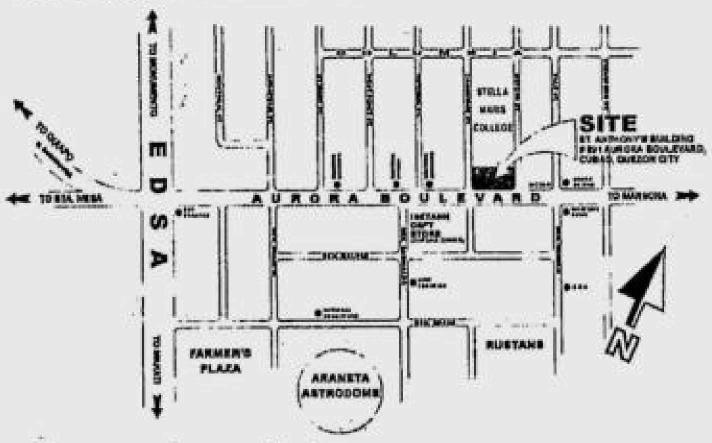

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Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Ave., Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. 711-95-02/03, 743-83-01 loc: 1125, 1126

Invitation for Bids

Social Expenditure Management Project II
Department of Health, Philippines

Supply and Delivery of TB Drugs
IFB No. WB-SEMP2-2001-001

1. This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 564 of **August 16, 2001.**
2. The Government of the Philippines has applied for a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of Social Expenditure Management Project II, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for which this invitation for bids is issued.
3. The Department of Health now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of TB drugs.

Items	Unit	Quantity
1. Type I	blister pack	2,200,000 blister pack
2. Type II	blister pack	3,800,000 blister pack
3. Ethambutol tablet	tablets	33,800,000 tablets
4. Pyrazinamide tablet	tablets	1,700,000 tablets
5. Streptomycin, injectable	vial, 1 gram	1,200,000 vials
6. Diluent	vial, 5 ml	1,200,000 vials
7. Pyrazinamide suspension	bottle of 250 mg/5 ml	84,000 bottles
8. Rifampicin suspension	bottle of 200 mg/5 ml	84,000 bottles
9. Isoniazid syrup	bottle of 200 mg/5 ml	56,000 bottles

4. Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding a procedure specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement and Logistics Service and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Procurement and Logistics Service
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 711-6831
Telefax No. (632) 711-6712

6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (Php 5,000) or US$250 including air courier for foreign bidders. The method of payment will be cash, or bank draft. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below before 2:00 p.m. on **October 12, 2001.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of total bid. Late bids will be rejected outright and returned unopened to the bidder.
8. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bidding conference will be held at the following address at 2:00 p.m. on **September 21, 2001.**

Multi-Media Conference Room
Bldg. # 18, Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines

9. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address above at 2:01 p.m. of October 12, 2001.

By the authority of the Secretary of Health.
(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--Aug. 25, 26 & Sept. 2, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. 711-95-02/03, 743-83-01 loc. 1125, 1126

Invitation for Bids

Social Expenditure Management Project II
Department of Health, Philippines

Supply and Delivery of TB Laboratory Supplies
IFB No. WB-SEMP2-2001-002

1. This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 564 of **August 16, 2001.**
2. The Government of the Philippines has applied for a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of Social Expenditure Management Project II, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for which this invitation for bids is issued.
3. The Department of Health now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of TB Laboratory Supplies.

Items	Unit	Quantity
1. TB Staining Kit	kit	12,000 kits
2. Microscopic Immersion Oil	bottle	14,000 bottles
3. Glass Slides	box of 72 pcs.	50,000 boxes
4. Sputum Cups	pieces	3,000,000 pieces

4. Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding a procedure specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement and Logistics Service and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 711-6831
Telefax No. (632) 711-6712

6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000) or US$250 including air courier for foreign bidders. The method of payment will be cash, or bank draft. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below before 9:00 a.m. on **October 19, 2001.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of total bid. Late bids will be rejected outright and returned unopened to the bidder.
8. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bidding conference will be held at the following address at 9:00 a.m. on **September 28, 2001.**

Multi-Media Conference Room
Bldg.#18, Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines

9. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address above at 9:01 a.m. of **October 19, 2001.**

By the authority of the Secretary of Health:
(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – Aug. 25, 26 & Sept. 2, 2001)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS
METROSTAR EXPRESS

INVITATION TO BID

The DOTC-MRT 3 Bids and Awards Committee invites all interested/prospective bidders/suppliers to pre-qualify and bid for the supply, delivery and installation for the Upgrading of PABX Integral 33xE W2 Module Telephone System for the Metrostar Express.

Issuance of accreditation requirements can be obtained upon payment of non-refundable fee of P100.00 to the Administrative Division, DOTC-MRT 3 Depot, North Avenue cor. EDSA, North Triangle Area, Quezon City. Submission of duly accomplished and notarized pre-qualification documents shall not be later than 5:00 p.m., **September 12, 2001.**

Bid documents and complete specifications are available for issuance upon payment of P500.00, which is not refundable, and upon presentation of Notice of Invitation and Certificate of Accreditation.

The DOTC-MRT 3 reserves the right to reject any or all of the bids proposals without offering any reason, waive any informality therein and make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the government. This office, likewise, assumes no obligation for whatever losses that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of the bids nor does it guarantee that an award shall be made.

(Sgd.) **MARIO C. MIRANDA**
Acting General Manager
Chairman, PBAC

(PDI – Aug. 24, 25 & 26, 2001)

MAKE A CAREER CHOICE ONLINE.

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila
Tel. No. 711-95-02/03, 743-83-01 loc. 1125, 1126

Invitation for Bids

Social Expenditure Management Project II
Department of Health, Philippines

Supply and Delivery of Anti-Rabies Vaccines
IFB No. WB-SEMP2-2001-005

1. This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in Development Business, issue no. 564 of **August 16, 2001.**
2. The Government of the Philippines has applied for a loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development toward the cost of Social Expenditure Management Project II, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the contract for which this invitation for bids is issued.
3. The Department of Health now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for the supply and delivery of Anti-Rabies Vaccines.

Items	Unit	Quantity
1. Human Anti-Rabies Vaccine (Verorab)	vials	58,000 vials
2. Equine Rabies Anti-Serum	vials	10,000 vials
3. Anti-Rabies Dog Vaccine	vials	32,000 vials

4. Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding a procedure specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Procurement and Logistics Service and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday.

Procurement and Logistics Service
Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines
Tel. No. (632) 711-6831
Telefax No. (632) 711-6712

6. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address above and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of Five Thousand Pesos (Php5,000) or US$250 including air courier for foreign bidders. The method of payment will be cash, or bank draft. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.
7. Bids must be delivered to the address below before 2:00 p.m. on **October 16, 2001.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of not less than 2.5% of total bid. Late bids will be rejected outright and returned unopened to the bidder.
8. Prior to bid opening, a pre-bidding conference will be held at the following address at 2:00 p.m. on **September 25, 2001.**

Multi-Media Conference Room
Bldg.#18, Department of Health
San Lazaro Compound
Sta. Cruz, Manila
Philippines

9. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address above at 2:01 p.m. of **October 16, 2001.**

By the authority of the Secretary of Health:
(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH**
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI – Aug. 25, 26 & Sept. 2, 2001)

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sbma **BIDS AND AWARDS COMMITTEE**
SBMA Building 255, Barryman Street, Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Philippines

INVITATION FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

All parties interested to bid for the project described below are invited to apply for Application for Eligibility and to Bid with the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA), Subic Bay Freeport, Olongapo City. Only eligible contractors will be invited to participate in the forthcoming bidding.

A. Name and Location of Project : **PROPOSED SUBIC BAY FREEPORT CENTRAL BUSINESS DISTRICT (CBD) CONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT (PACKAGE 1) (Magsaysay Boulevard from Rizal Highway to Intersection of Aguinaldo Street and Raymundo Street).**

B. Project Description/Scope of Works:

The proposed project shall include securing/applying of all permits, supervision, labor, materials and equipment required for the Proposed CBD Construction and Development (Package 1).

The proposed CBD Construction and Development (Package 1) includes the following:

a) Earthworks, Subbase and Basecourse preparation
b) Roads, Pavement and Sidewalks and Traffic Management
c) New and Relocation of Utilities (Sewers, Water System and Water Main, Electrical Power Supplies, Street Lighting,Telecom, Catv Lines)
d) Landscaping and Hardscaping
e) Drainage System

C. Approved Budget Cost: Php - 35.0 M

D. Required PCAB Registration and Classification/License:

PCAB Principal Qualification and Category
General Engineering "AA"

Kinds of Project and Respective Ranges
Roads, Highway Pavement, Horizontal "LA"
Structures and Bridges

E. Cost of forms for Application for Eligibility and to Bid, dates and place of issuance: Php 200.00 (non-refundable);

Issuance date: September 24 and 25, 2001 only,
from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Engineering Department, PWTSG, SBMA
Room 223 Building 255, Barryman Road, SBFZ

F. Deadline for submission of Accomplished Application for Eligibility to Bid: October 2, 2001, 5:00 p.m.

Address to:

ATTY. CHITO M. CRUZ
BAC Chairman/Sr. D.A. for Support Services
c/o Engineering Department
Room 222, Building 255 Barryman Road
Subic Bay Freeport Zone

G. Time and date of submission and opening of Bids, Pre-Bid Conference and Site Inspection shall be confirmed in the Notice of Eligibles.

Application for Eligibility and to Bid is open to all contractors with valid PCAB (Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board) Contractors License and Registration. Prospective bidders are required to submit a Letter of Intent and Certified True Copy of the Contractors License upon purchase of the forms for Application for Eligibility and to Bid and shall bring the original copy of the Contractors PCAB License Classification Registration for verification and authentication purposes.

Bid Documents shall be issued only to the eligible contractors duly notified by SBMA in writing upon payment of the non-refundable cost of the documents.

All particulars relative to the eligible process, bidding, evaluation of bids and award of contract shall be governed by the latest provisions of PD 1594 and its Implementing Rules and Regulations as Amended.

The SBMA reserves the right to reject any and all bids, waive any defect therein and accept the offer it deems most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **CHITO M. CRUZ**
BAC Chairman/Sr. D.A. for Support Services

(PDI – Aug. 26, Sept. 3 & 9, 2001)

YOUR CAREER MIGHT
ONLY BE A CLICK OF
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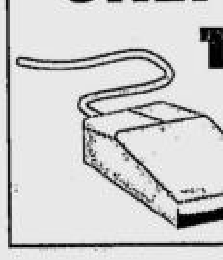

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Lot 11 Blk 6, Andover St. Vermont Park Exe. Mayamot	100	2-storey with 3BR and 2TB		1.68M
No 6 Humabon St. Kingsville Subd. Bo. Mayamot	379	office/ residential building		2.581M
No 15 Nelha St. Gloria Heights Subd	228	bungalow with 3BR and 2TB	227	1.5M
BULACAN				
Lot 1 Blk 5 Ruby St cor. Diamond St., Consuelo Sub., Abangan, Marilao	232	single-detached house with 4BR and 3TB	193	1.8M
Lot 25 Blk 15 Bush St. McArthur Village Longos, Malolos	126	bungalow with 2BR and 2TB	102	850T
CALOOCAN CITY				
No 71 3rd St Bo. Calaanan	325	2-storey resdl / commercial bldg with mezzanine (plus warehouse)	250	7M
Lot 20 Blk 2 Psalm St. Sto. Tomas Village IV Deparo	240	2-storey house with 3BR and 3TB plus servant's quarter	237	2.9M
Lot 21 Blk 17 Goldenshower St. BF Homes	240	single-detached with 3BR and 3TB	224	1.4M
LAS PIÑAS CITY				
No. 11 Manganese Road Pilar Village	240	house and lot		1.81M
16 Kuala Lumpur St. BF Homes	200	2-storey with 5BR and 5TB	224	3.5M
162 Venice St. BF Homes International	280	2-storey with 12BR and 6TB	453	2.4M
MAKATI CITY				
Unit 301, Crown Tower H V dela Costa St Salcedo Village		condo unit with 2BR and 2TB	178.92	10M
6740 Tayto St. Pio del Pilar	189	1 unit of 2-storey and 1 unit of unfinished 3-storey apartment	225	4.9M
MANILA				
Unit 1405 Regina Garden II 703 Regina Regente St.		condo unit with 3BR and 2TB	159	6.36M
Unit 1401 Regina Garden II 703 Regina Regente St.		condo unit with 3BR and 2TB	151	6.04M
MUNTINLUPA CITY				
169 Buendia St., Tunasan		townhouse with 2BR and 1TB		
Unit 9-B-1			67.95	707T
9-B-2			72.90	693T
9-B-3			74.02	703T
9-B-4			71.58	680T
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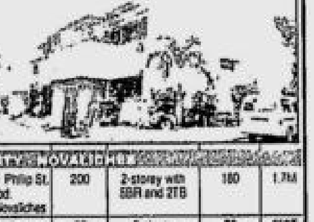
9-B-22			64.00	609T
Lot 13 Blk. 8 San Bernardino St. Susana Heights Subd.	500	3-storey with 10BR and 5TB	621	8M

Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr. Area	Price
MUNTINLUPA CITY				
50-A Lourdes St. San Jose Village, Alabang	328	bungalow with 3BR and 2TB	131	2.6M
PARAÑAQUE CITY				
No 32 Benitez corner E. Yuchengco St. BF Homes	684	single-detached with 7BR and 6TB, swimming pool and basement	523	8M
No 37 Dela Rama corner C. Benitez St. BF Homes	316	bungalow with 5BR and 6TB	260	3.6M
No. 24 A. Chiory St. BF Homes	280	bungalow with 3BR and 3TB	245	4.9M
Unit 11-A No. 15 Finland St. Better Living Subd.	51	townhouse with 2BR and 2TB	79	1.2M
Unit 11-C, No. 15 Finland St. Better Living Subd.	51	townhouse with 2BR and 2TB	79	1M
Unit G-104 Centermall Condominium Pres. Ave., BF Homes		commercial condominium	47	1.575M
PASIG CITY				
Renaissance 2000 Meralco Ave Unit 901, 9th Flr.		condo unit with 1BR and 1TB	70.689	3.7M
Unit 25-7 Crescent Condominium San Miguel Ave		2 level condo with 3BR and 4TB	367.5	15M
QUEZON CITY				
Lot 7 Blk S-156 Unit 14 Pointe Alta Townhomes, Samar Ave. West Triangle, Diliman	60	3-storey townhouse with 4BR and 3TB	214	5.4M
No 19 Don Ramon St. Talayan Village	925	residential house	387	14M
No 59 Sauyo Rd. Richland Subd. Tandang Sora	270	3-storey house with 6BR and 3TB	390.24	3M
Lot 6 Blk 3 Bonner St. Fairmonts Subd. North Fairview	300	unfinished 2-storey house with 7BR and 6TB	430	3.3M
Unit 1103 Prince Gregory Condominium 12th Ave., Cubao		condo unit with 1BR and 1TB	41	1.4M
Unit 10 Capitol Golf Hills Townhomes		4-storey townhomes with 4BR and 4TB	230.61	6.5M
Unit 6, Vermont Square Townhomes, Sunrise Dr. Santolan		townhouse with 4BR and 5TB	174.2	3.2M
Lot 4497-B-2-A No 1133 Edsa Balintawak	1000	office and resdl bldg	1121	40M
Lot 38 Blk 22, No. 12 South Edsdas St. North Susana Executive Village	160	2-storey with 5BR and 3TB	270	4.2M
Unit D-70, K-Ville Townhomes, Sanville Subd., Tandang Sora	95	2-storey townhouse with 5BR and 2TB	157	2.8M
Unit G Villa Valecia Townhomes, Valencia St.	120	2-storey townhouse with 4BR and 4TB	235	6.5M



Address	Lot Area	Improvements	Flr. Area	Price
QUEZON CITY - NOVALICHES				
Lot 17 Blk 11 St Philip St. San Pedro 7 Subd. San Bartolome, Novaliches	200	2-storey with 5BR and 2TB	180	1.7M
Unit 35, Ma. Rosario Homes, TS Cruz Subd. Brgy. San Agustin Novaliches	53	2-storey apartment with 3BR and 1TB	79	650T
Lot 17 Blk. 17 Riverdale cor Nathan St. Greenview West	240	house and lot	166	1.152M

845-6848 PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND SALES HOTLINE
Note. Prices are subject to change without prior notice

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Hse & Lot, 2 sty Twnhse
2BR, 2TB with carport

HOMES
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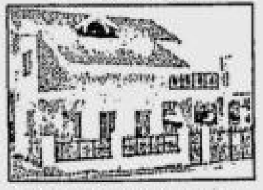
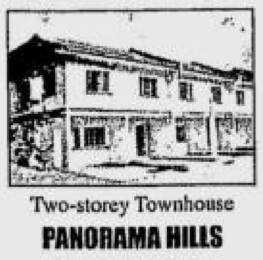
Antipolo City



Hse & Lot, 2 sty Twnhse

BIRMINGHAM SUNRISE
SAN MATEO, RIZAL
50m² up nr Quezon City
2BR, 1T&B with carport



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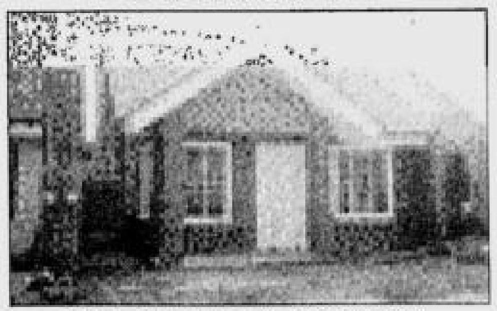

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OTHER AREAS

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LOT

LOT FOR SALE

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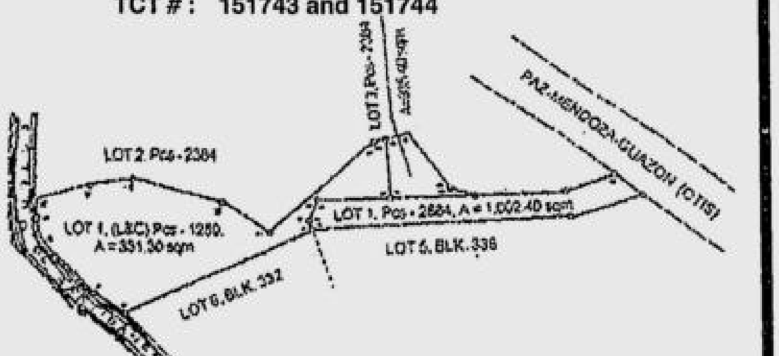
LAND AREA : 4,269.10 SQM. (more or less)
TCT # : 151743 and 151744


LOT 2 Pcs-2384
LOT 1 (L&C) Pcs - 1250. A = 351.30 sqm
LOT 6, BLK. 332
LOT 3 Pcs-2384
LOT 1, Pcs-2884, A = 1,002.40 sqm
LOT 5, BLK. 336
PAZ MENDOZA GUANZON (OTIS)

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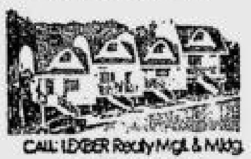

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ALABANG

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PASIG

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REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

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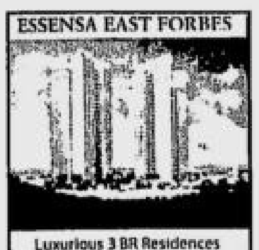

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Notice is hereby given that the estate of Francisca E. Teodoro has been extrajudicially settled per Doc. No. 136; Page No. 28; Book No. I; Series of 2001 of Notary Public Marvin Mesia of Mandaluyong City (PDI- Aug. 26, Sept. 2 & 9, 2001)

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PERSONAL

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Holy Spirit thou who make me see everything and show me the way to reach my ideal. You who give me the divine gift to forgive and forget the wrong that is done to me and who are in all instances of my life with me. I, in this short dialogue, want to thank You for everything and confirm once more that I never want to be separated from You, no matter how great the material desires may be. I want to be with You and my loved ones in Your Perpetual Glory. Amen.

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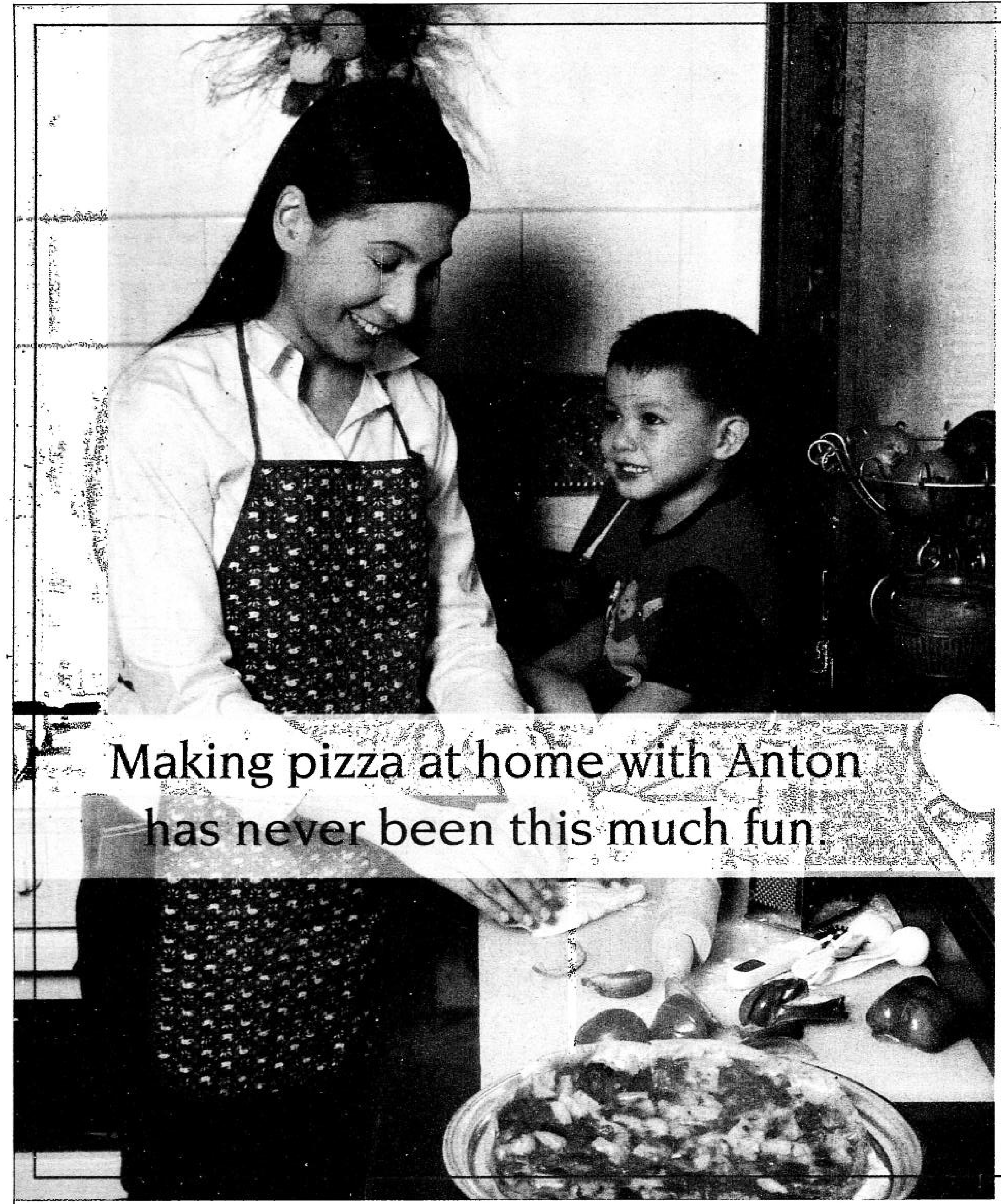

Making pizza at home with Anton has never been this much fun.

Home is Citta Italia. For only P11,311 a month.

"It's amazing how much fun you can have with your kids when you're not worried about something.

I still remember when we used to rent a small place in a crowded neighborhood in the city. My husband and I felt regretful each time we settled the rent, it was like paying for something that can never be ours. And on top of that, the neighborhood, bad roads and poor security bothered us.

We were pleased when we saw Citta Italia. Crown Asia has always built beautiful homes and fine communities. But we were ecstatic when we learned about the flexible payment options-- we could actually afford to ***own*** a home here. The rate was almost as much as our monthly rental fee!

We rarely worry about security and convenience now. My friends love my Italian-inspired villa (they couldn't believe it only takes P11, 311 a month!); and best of all, because I feel more at ease, I spend more quality time with Anton.

There truly is no place like home. But there's nothing like owning the home you live in."

Tina, 36, spends time with son, Anton, 5, in the kitchen of their Citta Italia Romagna home.

The two-storey Romagna home has three bedrooms, three bathrooms, a family room, a maid's room, a viewing deck, and a two-car garage, all of which cover 188 sqm of space.

- Citta Italia is situated in Imus, Cavite. Be captivated by its lovely fountain, Romanesque statues, paved streets and sidewalks and Italian-inspired villas.
- Choose a villa from ten Italian styles: Adrianni, Alessandria, Cellini, Francesca, Marci, Medicci, Romagna, Trevi, Venici and Vinci. These have two or three bedrooms and floor areas of 48 sqm to 188 sqm.
- Relax in the premiere clubhouse of Citta Italia, Piazza Italia, which has facilities like swimming pool, basketball court, multi-purpose hall, business center and gym.

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Via Alabang: Take the Alabang-Zapote Road towards Cavite. Watch out for SM Southmall, then turn left at Moonwalk Village to Marcos Alvarez Avenue. Follow the road to Molino (Molino Wet and Dry Market will be your landmark), and turn left. After 200 meters, turn right to Bahayang Pag-asa (Shell Station will be at the corner). Follow directional signs going to Mambog Road until you see Citta Italia on your right.

Via South Superhighway: Take the Carmona exit and follow the national highway towards Puerto Azul. Upon reaching Aguinaldo Highway at the end of the stretch, turn right. You will pass Immaculate Conception Academy, Waltermart, La Salle University, Orchard, Makro, and Robinson's. Watch out for Robinmart Grocery on your right. Turn right at Robinmart to Mambog Road and watch out for the Citta Italia billboard. Turn right at JICA Road and follow the cemented road until you see Citta Italia on your left.

Crown Asia

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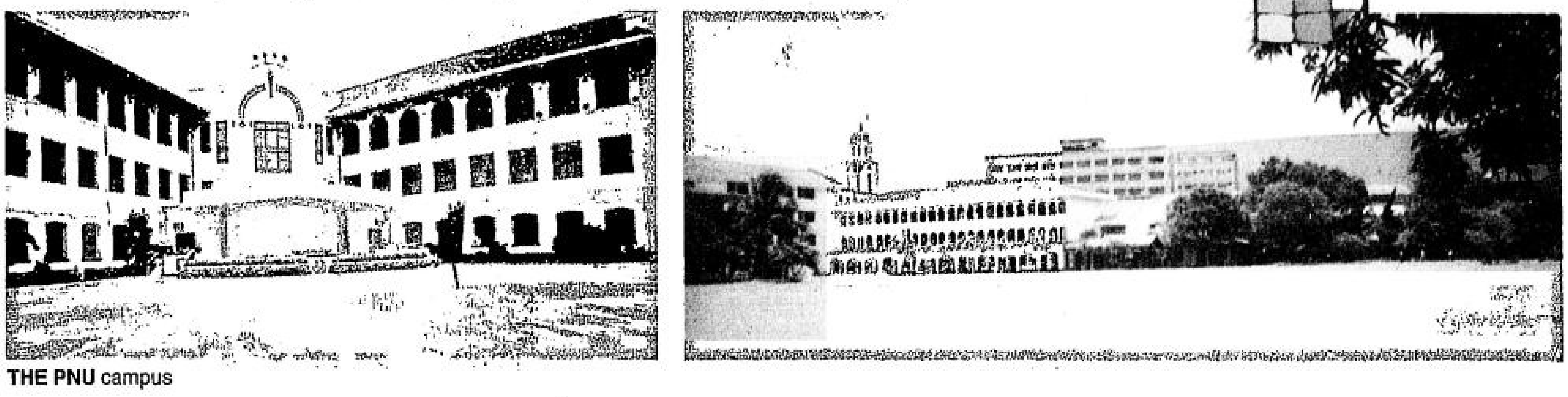
Sunday LIFESTYLE

CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO, Editor

Surprises!



THE PNU campus

100 years of teaching people about life

THE AUTHOR as a freshman at PNU

BY ANGELITA DAYRIT ROMERO, PH.D.

THE PHILIPPINE Normal University (PNU) is 100 years old this year.

But unlike many centenarians, what started as the Philippine Normal School and later the Philippine Normal College, remains vibrant and perky, very much alive and kicking.

PNU has grown better through the years. Its walls, though faded, speak of wisdom and service well rendered each day.

For 33 years, I have been here as a member of the faculty. All these years, I had been in awe, in total admiration of the institution. In its hundred years, PNU's name spelled greatness in a field that is almost exclusively hers, teacher education.

Personally, PNU gave me a past, a fine past.

I proudly tell anyone, when asked what PNU did for me, that the school taught me how to live. Many of the things that made me stand on my feet, on sturdy feet, I learned at PNU. The diploma I got was a neatly packaged set of tools, which helped me walk, jump or run through life.

When I came to PNU I was not even 16 and Pampanga was the only world I knew. (Trips to Manila were rare and did not allow me to get used to the place.) As the youngest in the family and surrounded by elder siblings who usually called the shots, I came to PNC feeling almost "helpless," doing things only when told, feeling comfortable when I had the approval of *kuya* or *ate*. But at PNU I sensed that, eventually, independence—tempered by an "intelligent kind of dependency" for effective collaboration with my classmates—would be necessary.

It did not take long for PNU to equip me with this tool for life—in Manila and beyond.

I set foot on PNU soil in the '60s. Arriving in Manila on a weekend, we proceeded to a relative's house in Sampaloc although I was supposed to stay at Normal Hall.

Since it was a Saturday, we went to see a concert—"Neil Sedaka Live!" I remember quite well how, in Pampanga, Sedaka's "Stairway to Heaven" and "Oh, Carol" brought out the best rhythms in us. My classmates and I used to walk by a corner jukebox on our way home, which constantly played Sedaka and Paul Anka songs. I managed to get Sedaka's precious autograph, which I still keep, by squeezing through the backstage crowd after his performance.

The Sedaka experience introduced me to Manila. Yes, Manila was exciting. It was cosmopolitan. I would see the world in Manila, so I thought. It was the home of celebrities. After seeing Neil Sedaka in person, I looked forward to coming face to face with Susan Roces and Romeo Vasquez, Paul Anka and Johnny Mathis. Indeed, Manila then nurtured dreams. Being a young optimist, I felt that dreams could come true especially if one knew how to wait and squeeze through a crowd.

Seeing the Philippines

Getting to Normal Hall finally, I was led to Room 6, Riverside, on the third floor, where all freshmen stayed. Each room was shared by eight students. Believe me, I saw the Philippines through my roommates. We spoke different languages but we managed to understand one another, despite my dropping the "h" initially and another saying Pidro for Pedro, etc.

For someone who spent the past 14 years in Pampanga, the thought of sharing a room with seven different girls for one year did not give me that "at home" feeling. The company I was going to keep was overwhelming and threatening.

The girls, I learned later, were from Bay and Biñan in Laguna, Bohol, Cotabato, Masbate, Palawan and Capiz. Capiz? The place rang a bell. (Wasn't it said Capiz people were *aswang*?)

In a few days, those of us in Room 6 were in trouble. The roommate from Capiz learned about our suspicion that she was an *aswang*. She was fuming mad and wanted to kill us for spreading the "news." Worse, she was going to sue us! Freshmen and *promdi* that we were, we were almost scared to death. Fortunately, abject apologies made in the presence of the dean of Normal Hall, were accepted by the Capiz girl with certain conditions. What a relief. The incident could have been avoided had we understood earlier tolerance and respect for diversity and appreciated the cultural richness of that company.

Orientation activities for freshmen took place on the first three days. It was fun. I liked the student leaders who led different groups. They were big brothers and big sisters to us.

We toured the campus. I saw the library with its many books. (We did not have as many in my high school.) We passed by a science laboratory with its microscopes, beakers, test tubes. At the speech laboratory, I wondered if that was where I would practice for an oratorical or de-

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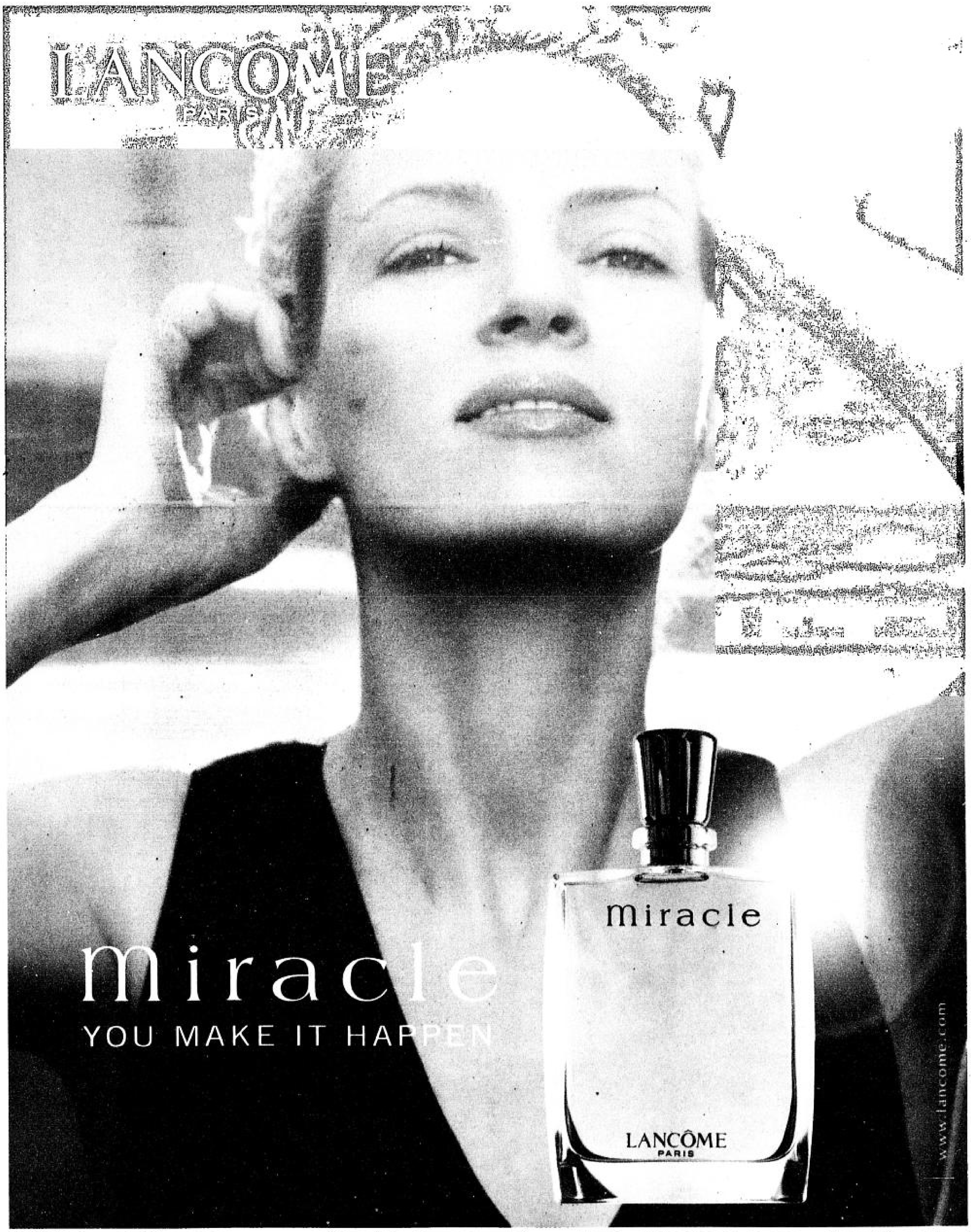

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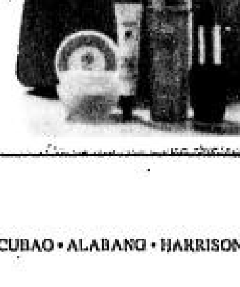


It's a mom's world

By Cathy Babao Guballa

FIRST-TIME mothers never had it better. In the 1980s there was old reliable Dr. Spock and his "Baby and Childcare," the bible for many generations of new mothers.

In the 1990s there was "What to Expect When You're Expecting" and its sequel, "What to Expect the First Year" to guide and initiate women into the joys and perils of pregnancy and motherhood. In the latter part of the 1990s, there came a slew of books on parenting, single parenting, motherhood and every imaginable aspect of the art of raising children.

For Pinoy moms

The Internet and the World Wide Web gave rise to countless interactive pages that mushroomed every month to guide new parents and parents-to-be—Parentsoup.com and babyzone.com are among the more popular ones. Most of the advice offered there, though helpful, was Western in orientation.

Fast forward to the year 2001 when momsworld.com.ph pops onscreen. As the title suggests, it is the Philippines' first online resource for mothers and it is packed with information and interactive tools to guide Filipino mothers and mothers-to-be.

Two friends, thirtysomething Tracy Posis-Guillermo and Mylene Segundera-Bass, had known each other for a decade and had lived and worked in other countries for a significant number of years when they both decided to come home late last year. Mylene was already mother to year-old Julian and Tracy to less-than-a-year-old Gino. The two women were then at a crossroads. "Mothering was our priority," Tracy begins. "But we also didn't want to stay home full-time," Mylene adds.

Growing popularity

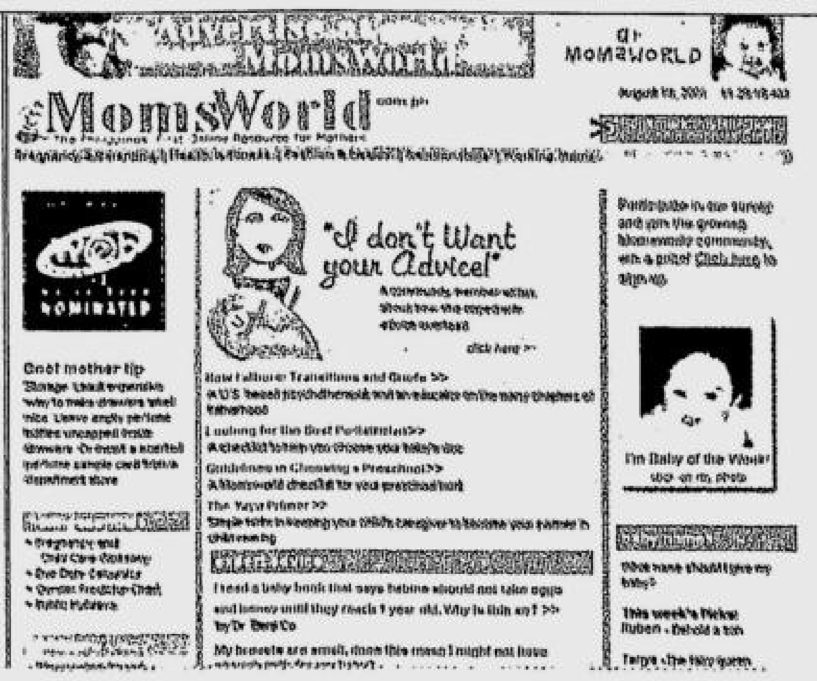
Having worked with Asian Sources Singapore, Tracy had lots of exposure to and experience in Web design and customer service. Husband Eric was an IT wizard as well. The idea for Mom's World came to Tracy and Mylene one afternoon as they were mulling business ideas. Eric put their ideas up on the Web in mid-March this year.

Starting with 4,000 hits per month, momsworld.com.ph now gets an average of 21,000 hits per month. Pretty impressive considering they have not done any advertising at all. "It's all word of mouth," both say with motherly pride.

Online experts

Momsworld.com, the Philippines first online resource for mothers, has interactive tools that most Filipino moms-to-be will find useful. There is a pregnancy and child-care glossary, a due date calculator and a gender predictor chart (based on the Chinese calendar). A database of Western and Pinoy baby names has 300 entries at present. Tracy, Mylene and Eric are open to more additions.

New moms who want to brag about their bundles of joy can send in their babies' photos. The photo that is chosen is uploaded on the homepage and the baby is featured as baby of the week. There are countless, well-written articles by experts that are packed with information. Tips for choosing a pediatrician, guidelines for choosing a preschool, suggestions for keeping the *yaya* happy and how to make her a partner in child-rearing are some of the articles in the easy-to-search archives.



Expert advice is dished out by Department of Health sources, doctors, dentists and counselors in sub-sections divided into pregnancy and parenting, health and fitness (which tackles issues such as premenstrual syndrome, urinary tract infection, dengue, heavy periods, etc...), fashion and beauty, relationships and working moms. There is a Mom Café with a discussion board where visitors can post their maternal concerns (current discussion as of this writing are the pros and cons of using a *bigkis* or abdominal binder) and a chatroom where moms can, what else, chat, from the confines of their room.

A directory of adoption centers, support groups, children's hospitals, ob-gynecologists, maid/nanny agencies, pediatric clinics, party organizers and private tutors is growing. Service providers who wish to be listed are welcome to post their services on the site.

The best part about Mom's World is that it is very Pinoy and user-friendly. There is no long waiting time as the pages download quickly. Support, information and fun in a place where Filipino moms can bond—that's what this world is about.

E-mail the author at cbguballa@inquirer.com.ph

FARLIN® CARES for the FILIPINO baby.

Your Baby Is Our Concern

Farlin At The Turn Of The New Millennium A New Image, New Perspective

SINCE its introduction in the Philippines in 1982, Farlin has emerged as one of the leading brands in the baby care industry. Its immense popularity as one of the trusted brands in the country, attesting to its excellent performance by international marketing standards, paved the way for its availability to the global market. Farlin Philippines' business philosophy upholds the production of nothing but innovative, superior quality products; this is bolstered by its commitment to continuous research and development and strict compliance with international safety standards.

A RE-LAUNCH IN THE NEW MILLENNIUM.
The re-launch of the new logo of Farlin Philippines, which was held at the Manila Galleria Suites, was attended by its executive board, national sales force, and business partners.

All Farlin feeding bottles and nipples, from teethers and pacifiers, to training cups and other accessories, have consistently and continuously acquired accreditation from European Economic Community (EEC) Migration test for plastic material and article intended to come into contact with foodstuffs; the European Standard / British Standard Migration test for soluble heavy metal content; the ASTM Standard Consumer Safety Specification for Toy Safety; and the American National Standard and U.S. Consumer Products Safety Commission on lead and heavy metal content. Farlin products are all sourced / imported from the world's prominent baby care manufacturers adhering to ISO standards.

At the turn of the millennium, Farlin adapts itself to the modernistic lifestyle of young working mothers who wish to maintain intimate bonding moments with their babies. To reflect this new era of parenting, Farlin has stylistically modified its logo from a flat to a 3D embossed type and has added a mother and child icon for a more emotional content. The icon depicts a playful interaction between mother and child in their most intimate bonding moments. In line with the trendy changes of Farlin, colors have shifted from the striking blue and fuchsia to baby-friendly pastel colors. In the new packaging, bottles are seen through window boxes that better protect the bottle from scratches while displaying the designs in dainty pastel colors.

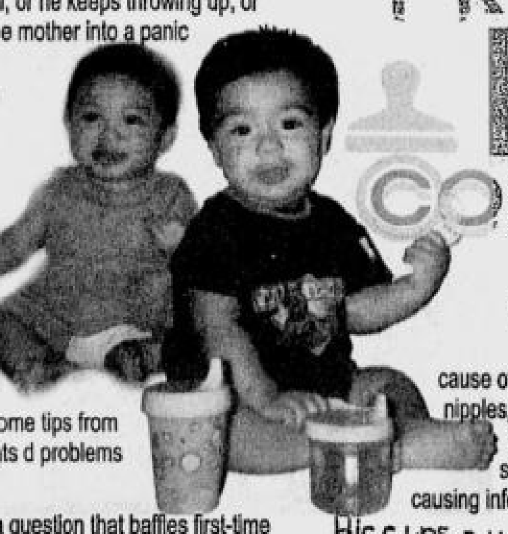
What's more, Farlin feeding bottles come in non-spill and easy snap-off hoods for no-leak, no-spill feeding time! Farlin nipples are made of silicone materials to ensure durability and long-lasting use, with the presence of linear bars inside the nipples prevents them from collapsing easily and ensures easy flow of liquid. All nipples are laser pierced, odorless, tasteless and non toxic guaranteed baby safe.

Farlin understands the longings of young first-time parents for good quality baby products at reasonable prices without compromising their baby's health. Farlin also salutes young moms who know how to balance family and career. That is why Farlin is reinforcing more than ever product trust and confidence while focusing on a more emotional maternal and infant intimacy. These it achieves through innovative, superior quality and value-for-money products. Mothers will feel secure and fulfilled with every use of Farlin products! To date the brand offers a full line of infant's accessories from feeding equipment, oral development products, grooming equipment, playthings and other baby care products.

Being the highest media spender in its category, Farlin Philippines has created strong awareness and brand loyalty among its valued young moms. Farlin's local advertising campaigns have made effective use of celebrity endorsers, including Pinky Marquez and Pops Fernandez. Aside from television and print advertising, Farlin was also energized and supported by dynamic merchandising activities in various trade outlets in Metro Manila and key cities nationwide. Moreover, Farlin continues to sponsor major concerts of the country's finest artists, one of its activities meant to recognize the continuous support and loyalty of the Filipino family, and to express its appreciation for the warm acceptance of consumers to the brand.

In the new millennium, Farlin has forged for itself a new image and perspective to meet the new challenges of the times. It has become more adaptable to the constantly innovating baby care technology. It has also become more responsive to the new demands of infancy and motherhood.

TREATING Baby's common Symptoms



A BABY is such a delicate thing that whenever something seems to be wrong with him, like he doesn't stop crying, or he has a cough, or he keeps throwing up, or discharging loose stool, it throws the father and the mother into a panic and they start imagining the worse. Some new mothers, particularly those who are going through postpartum depression, would also start crying helplessly when the baby does. Distraught and worried to death, they rush him to the doctor.

There would be no need to worry or consult a doctor in most cases. Farlin, one of the leading brands in the baby care industry that most mothers have learned to trust, says that understanding and remedying many common problems of infancy require no more than common sense. And a little patience and tenderness. Here are some tips from Farlin on treating symptoms from common ailments d problems of babies:

Colic. Why is the baby crying? This is a question that baffles first-time parents. Most babies, especially first babies, become fretful and cry a lot by the time they are a couple of weeks old. The crying is colic when it happens regularly at a certain period in the afternoon or evening and there is distension, gas and pain; or periodic irritable crying when there is no distension. This condition is usually present during the first three months of the baby. Why? Because the baby's immature nervous and digestive systems are adapting to a life outside of the womb. And the adjustment is harder for some than for others. What to do? Colicky babies often improve when they sleep in a quiet room, are handled slowly and gently (no tickling and roughhousing)and talked to softly, don't get visitors, or in extreme cases, are not taken outdoors. Some home remedies are also useful. One of the most effective remedies is the pacifier. Or you can lay your baby across your knees, or on a hot water bottle (wrapped in a diaper or towel for extra precaution) and massage him on the back. Remember that colic occurs with breast milk and with all kinds of milk formula. The quality of feeding also has something to do with the cause of colic. When babies are fed in an upright position and air fills the nipples, there is excessive air intake and this may cause colic. It is also not recommended to feed the baby when he is in a lying position since there is the risk of milk flowing into the baby's middle ear and causing infection.

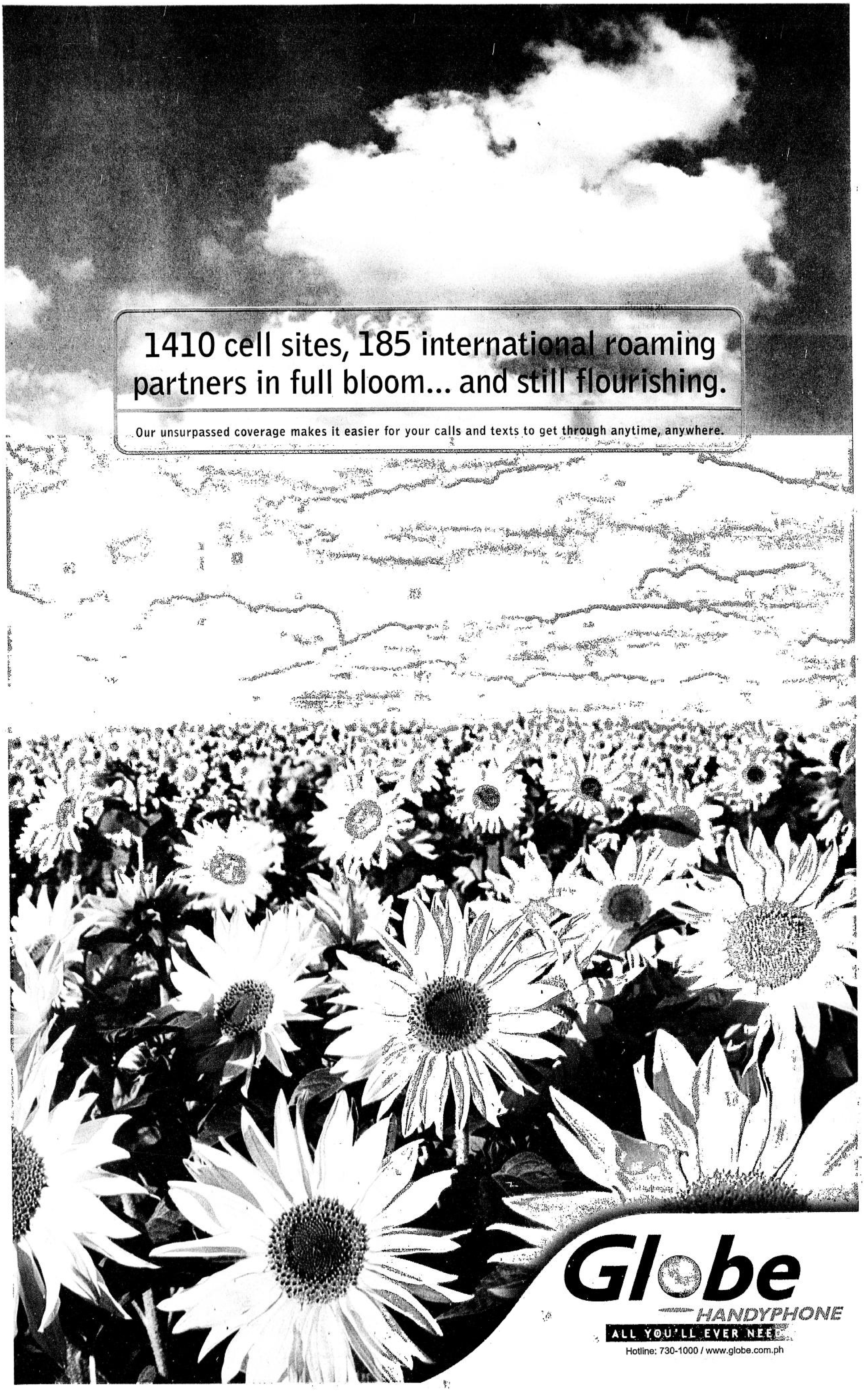
Hiccups. Babies hiccup pretty regularly after meals in the early months. There's nothing you have to do except to see if they need to burp. (To do this, you sling the baby over your shoulder.) If it stops the hiccups, don't hesitate to give him a drink of hot water.

Vomiting. This occurs when the baby throws out the contents of his stomach at least a few inches away from his mouth. Some babies vomit a large amount of milk as often as once a day, especially the hyperactive babies, and especially in the early weeks. But this is not alarming in itself if the baby seems otherwise healthy and gaining. To reduce vomiting, it helps to keep the child sitting for 30 minutes after feeding. Vomiting often signals sickness or infection, so it's a good idea to take his temperature. If there's no fever and the baby looks entirely normal, there's no need to worry. Vomiting is alarming if there is pain or there is green bile in the vomitus. In which case, take him to the doctor.

Constipation. The regularity of a baby's bowel movement is not an indicator of his health. One baby moves his bowel at the same time each day, while another at different times. However, both babies are healthy. Don't try to make the irregular baby regular, because it can't usually be done and because you risk emotionally upsetting the baby if you keep trying to get a movement out of him when he's not ready. With a breast fed baby, constipation usually occurs when he is newly introduced to solid foods and he then develops firm, infrequent stools and looks uncomfortable. To remedy this, give him from a bottle or cup, a little sugar water (1 teaspoon of granulated sugar to 2 ounces of water) or some fruit juice or stewed prunes. If the constipation continues for a week, consult a doctor. With a bottle-fed baby constipated from an evaporated cow's milk formula or a commercially prepared formula, you can try two remedies. First, you can add one teaspoon of granulated sugar to a bottle, and give the baby up to two bottles a day. Second, you can add prune juice or pureed prunes to his diet, starting with two teaspoons once a day, increasing to four times a day, even more. Sometimes the baby gets cramps from the prunes or prune juice, in which case cut the amount in half.

Diarrhea. A mild upset caused by a mild germ, a new food, or too much fruit juice is of no consequence. The stools are looser than usual and greenish in color and smell different. Give him some extra water or very diluted juice, or remove a food that has been recently added. Offer him breast milk or formula and his regular diet. Without special treatment, the symptoms will go away after a couple of days. If the symptoms persist, consult a doctor. In the case of severe diarrhea when he isn't back to normal after a couple of days, has more than a few extra stools a day, or worse has pus or blood in his stools, or has vomiting or fever you must bring him to the doctor immediately.

Rashes. Diaper rash appears as collections of small red pimples and patches of rough, red skin. If the pimples are mildly infected, whiteheads (pustules) appear on them. If the rash is bad, raw spots appear. Most diaper rashes are caused by prolonged contact with the warm acidic urine. If the rash persists, replace disposable with cloth diapers, and change more often to keep the skin drier. Don't wash the diaper area with soap as this can be irritating. Use plain water instead of diaper wipes. For protective coating of the skin, use diaper rash cream or petroleum jelly, which don't wipe off easily like powder, lotion and oil. To wash the diaper, add ½ cup of clear white vinegar to the last rinse.



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100 years of teaching people about life

CLASS PICTURE. The author is sixth from left, second row.

(From page C1)

clamation contest. When I did not see a chapel, I wondered if that meant there would be no Dominican sister to prod me to pray the rosary during recess.

Discovery time

I sensed new things coming my way. There were many things I had yet to discover.

The classroom and the professor were the essence of my college life, so I thought. So I looked forward to meeting my professors. In high school, I came across the name Matute whose book was one of our texts. I read it from cover to cover. It was exciting to learn that she would be one of my professors. I planned to tell the whole world that Dr. Matute was one of my professors—Genoveva Edroza Matute!

I met my first professor—in the English class. She was probably in her late 40s, fair complexioned, about 5 ft tall, a little plump, and with a distinctive high-pitched voice. As she did the roll call, we were pleased by our newly earned titles: Miss or Mr. She was sweet until she came to one class card. The look on her face as she paused, told us something was wrong. There was an indescribable anger on her face, which she tried, but failed, to control. What set her off was a student who erred in filling out the boxes in the class card. That was I.

"Who is this Dayrit? Dayrit?" she shouted. I meekly and nervously raised my hand. I quickly apologized for the error—writing my family name in the box where the first name was supposed to go. The professor called me names. I felt sorry, embarrassed and afraid. How would I get along with this professor for the rest of the semester? But the "animosity" did not last.

Thanks to the healing power of time the English professor became a friend. I even helped her check test papers and she would often ask me to take care of the class when she had meetings to attend.

The encounter with the professor in English was the start of a four-year rendezvous with people of varying orientations, idiosyncrasies. I realized that I would not be able to choose the people I would work with and that people differed in many ways. But differences could be overcome, tolerance could be stretched and fits of anger could be short-lived.

I also remember quite well a child psychology professor. Probably in her 50s, she required a lot of reading and written reports were meticulously checked. All recitations were graded and she did not mince words when assessing a student's performance. Her comments were fierce and blunt. But the experience with the professor stayed with us. We felt her presence when we went to the library and did research. Going to the library became a habit and doing a lot of reading a routine. The professor introduced us to a new world—the world of scholarship.

Honing social skills

Life at PNU was, of course, not all books. There were regular parties dubbed as "Social Hour," which were a welcome respite. The parties aimed to hone our social skills. With some favorite soda and cheese-pimiento sandwiches, the social hour was held in one of the classrooms 2-5 p.m. on a Sunday or Saturday. To hi-fi music of The Platters and Elvis Presley, students rocked and rolled. Boys met girls and girls met boys.

Part of the joy of being at PNU was its location. This was Manila. New York or Paris was out of the question but wasn't being in Manila enough? Carriedo and Central Market, Escolta and Avenida were shopping heavens with the Otis Department Store and SM.

A pair of shoes at SM took my breath away but I did not have the P20 to buy it. I needed that amount to pay the monthly laundry fee. But if I would do my laundry for a month then I would be able to buy the shoes. So one weekend I went to a relative's house (Normal Hall did not allow borders to do laundry), setting aside library work.

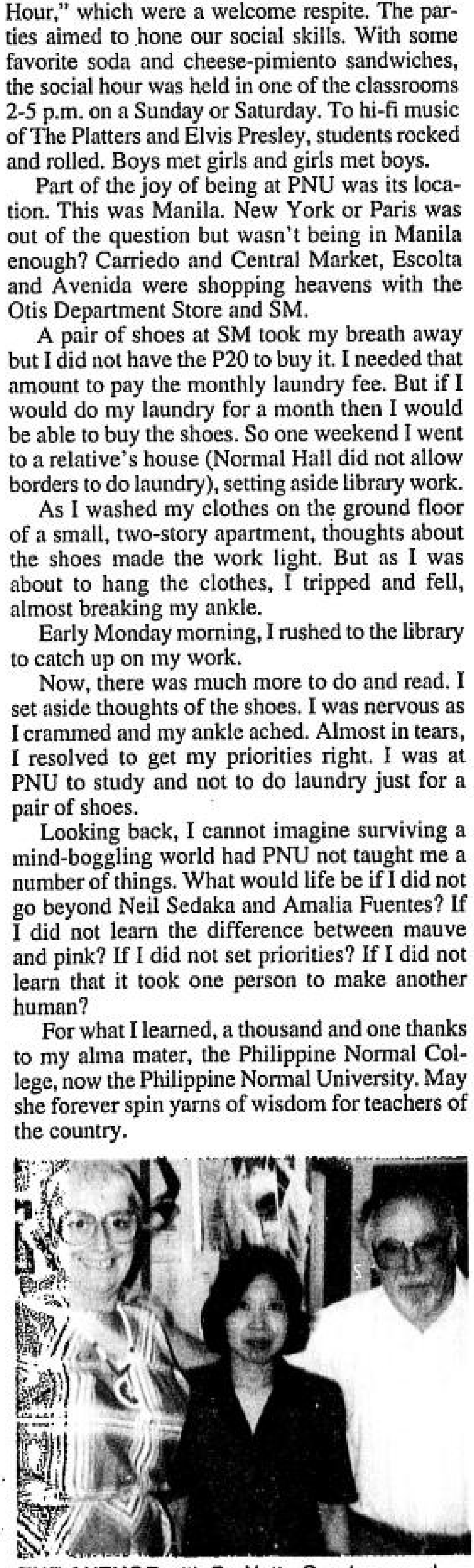
As I washed my clothes on the ground floor of a small, two-story apartment, thoughts about the shoes made the work light. But as I was about to hang the clothes, I tripped and fell, almost breaking my ankle.

Early Monday morning, I rushed to the library to catch up on my work.

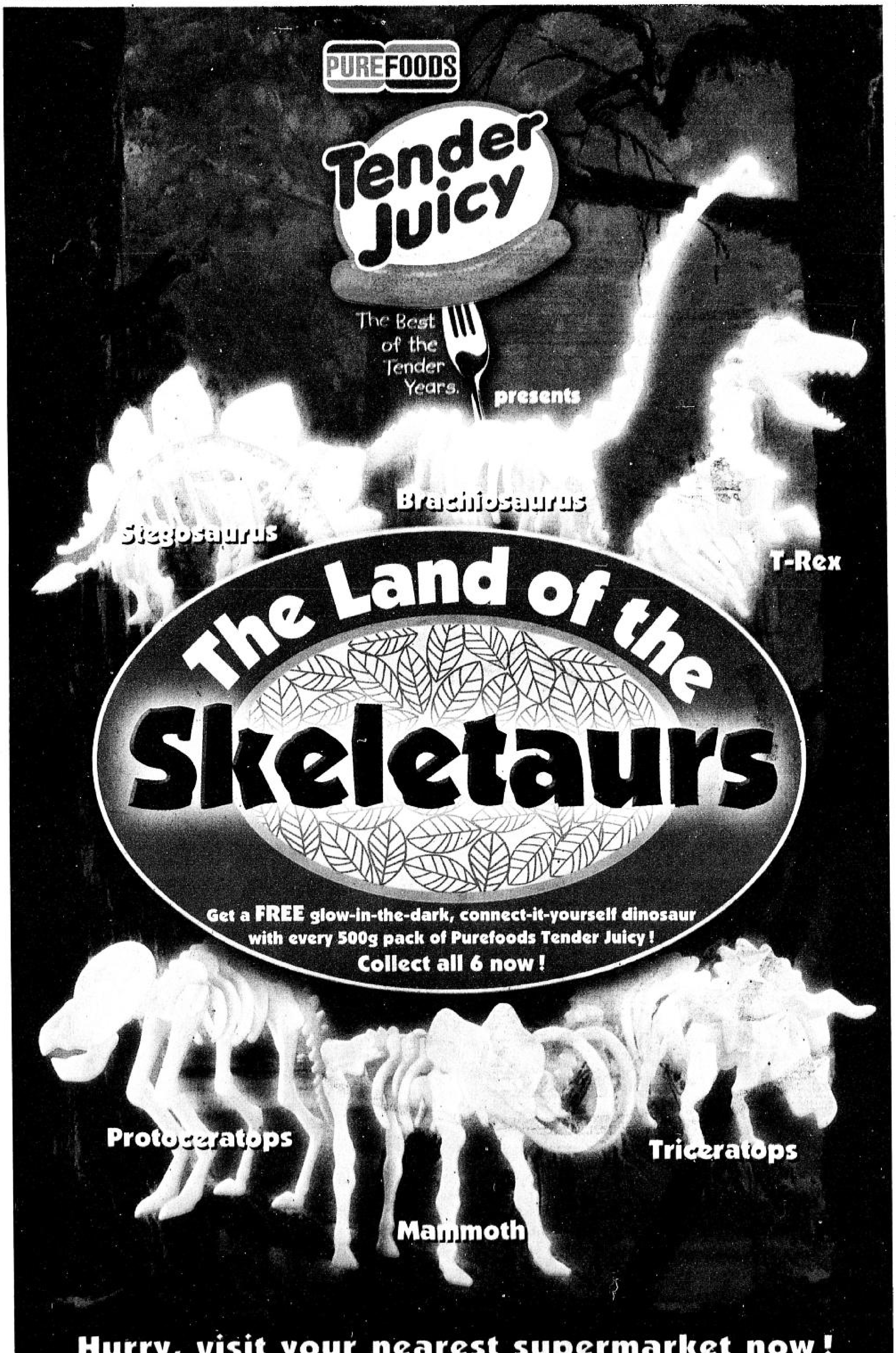
Now, there was much more to do and read. I set aside thoughts of the shoes. I was nervous as I crammed and my ankle ached. Almost in tears, I resolved to get my priorities right. I was at PNU to study and not to do laundry just for a pair of shoes.

Looking back, I cannot imagine surviving a mind-boggling world had PNU not taught me a number of things. What would life be if I did not go beyond Neil Sedaka and Amalia Fuentes? If I did not learn the difference between mauve and pink? If I did not set priorities? If I did not learn that it took one person to make another human?

For what I learned, a thousand and one thanks to my alma mater, the Philippine Normal College, now the Philippine Normal University. May she forever spin yarns of wisdom for teachers of the country.



THE AUTHOR with Dr. Yetta Goodman and Dr. Kenneth Goodman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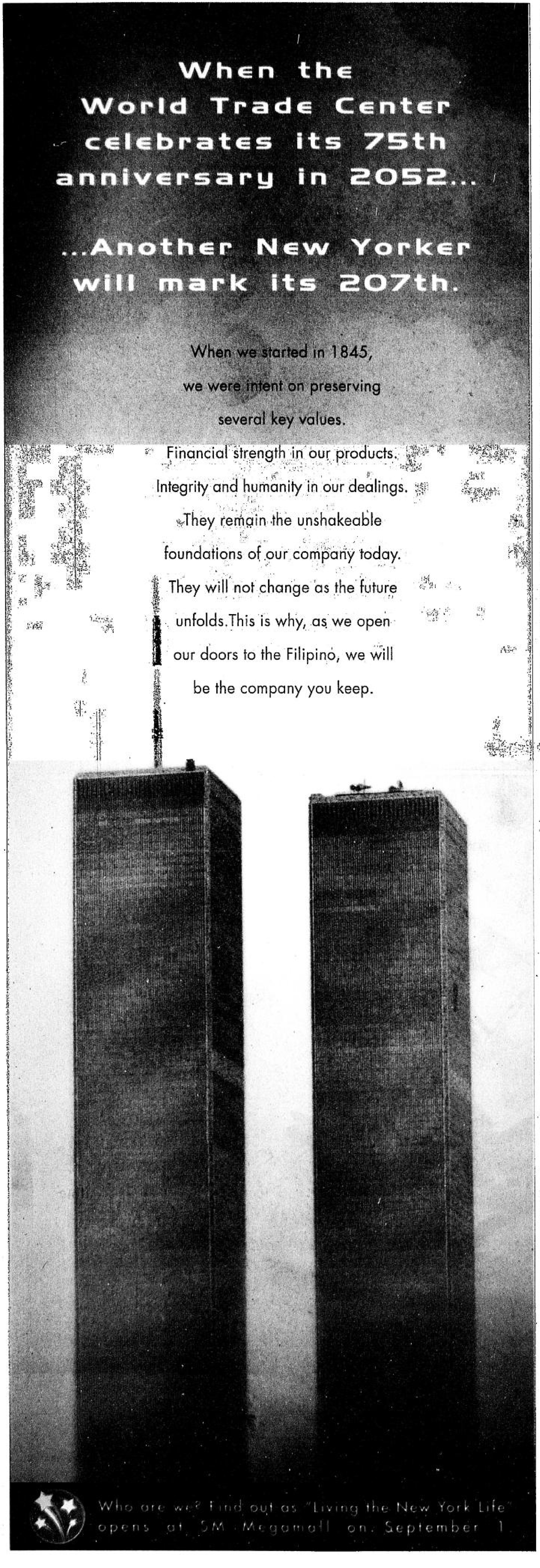

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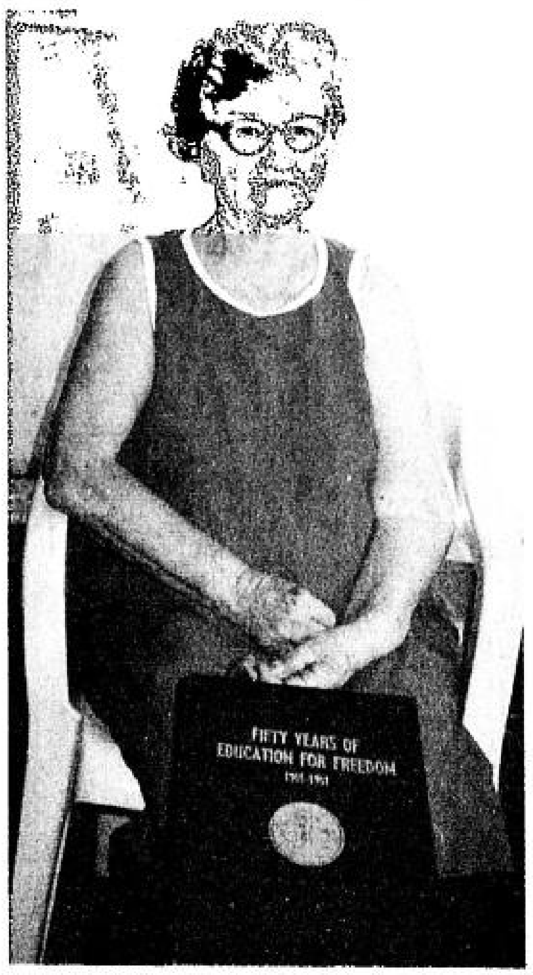
Who are we? Find out as "Living the New York Life" opens at SM Megamall on September 1.

The Thomasite who stayed

By Eufemia C. Estrada



LAURA Satterthwaite Oloroso today at 88. Fifty years ago, in 1951, the golden jubilee of the coming of the Thomasites, she helped in the publication of a coffee-table book, "Fifty Years of Education for Freedom."

FOR THE PAST year, the days of Laura Satterthwaite Oloroso, 88, have been filled with memories of life with father George William Satterthwaite and mother Dolores.

Her father was one of 600 American volunteer teachers who came over on the USS Thomas on Aug. 23, 1901. This month marks the centennial of their setting up the public schools system and establishing English as the medium of instruction.

Small wonder then that Laura, living descendant of a Thomasite, as the volunteers came to be known, is filled with nostalgia. This is her story.

Laura was hoping there would at least be two of them in the family who would still be around when the centennial came but eldest brother Edward Jovito passed away recently. It was Edward who played a vital role in their family although he was away for the greater part of it.

One of two children, George William was only 22 when he volunteered, one of 23 from his hometown of Muscatine, Iowa. A graduate of State Normal, he had four years of teaching experience.

His first assignment was in San Jose, Antique where he met Dolores Tiscar, a Spanish-Filipino from a landed family. He asked for her hand in marriage and, when it was granted, he left for a four-month vacation in the USA. He came back to marry Dolores and the children came, one after the other, seven of them, but only Edward, Nena, Laura, Frances and Robert lived to adulthood.

Fighting loneliness

George's main problem was loneliness because only a few Americans with whom he shared the same background and interests. In Iloilo there was the protestant minister, in Sorsogon another American friend would drop by and the two would talk long into the night.

For Dolores life was not difficult in San Jose with her extended family around to lavish tender, loving care on her growing brood. When Satterthwaite was sent to Iloilo as school principal, though he never learned any Visayan, it was not alien territory to Dolores.

It was a different story when George was assigned to Zambales as superintendent of schools. They had to sell their piano, which Dolores played while George played the violin. The piano was too big to ship to their new destination.

Zambales was entirely foreign to Dolores and she found it hard to adjust. It was then she broke her self-imposed rule never to interfere in George's career. When Dr. Luther Bewley, then the director of education, came for a visit, Dolores broke down in tears and begged him to transfer them.

George was transferred to Sorsogon where Dolores made friends with a neighbor across the street. Language was no problem because the Bicol dialect was rich in Visayan words. The kids picked up Bicolano fast.

Money problems

During these assignments money was sometimes a problem. The mail was slow and the paychecks were usually delayed. Dolores wanted to ask her father for financial help but George would not hear of it. They had to make do till the next check came.

By the time Dolores was heavy with her seventh child, her health had deteriorated and she thought the end was near. She begged to be allowed to go home to San Jose where her loving family could nurse her back to health.

In 1920 when George had been with the public schools system for 19 years, he planned to retire and return to the US with his family as his mother urged. But Dolores was not keen to make the move to a foreign land with five growing kids to care for and no kin to lend her a hand and her frail health. She chose to stay. Laura was only 7.

George left and was not heard from for the next 14 years. For two years after George left, Dolores received a P220 monthly pension, then it stopped.

When his father left, Edward was in high school at Manila South. After a year he got a job as a bellboy in an American liner and left for the USA to look for his father. Edward supported himself with the help of American Catholics, a Ms Lynch and a Mr. Ben Mckinley, who took him under their wings. Every summer he would set off on his search for his father.

Reconciliation

After 14 years, in 1934, the year of the carnival in Manila (Laura remembers because she and her sister were in the city to tend the Antique booth), Edward happily brought back his father, now in his 50s. Edward had a quiet talk with his mother and father, and reconciled them. They then lived the rest of their lives as good friends. George tended a backyard garden, raised some chickens and taught English to some Chinese kids in the neighborhood.

Early in the Japanese Occupation, the family evacuated to the hills of Buhang in Antique but when George was near death from a prostate problem, they brought him home to San Jose through the intercession of Gov. Tobias Fornier. The Japanese sentries took one look at him and allowed him to die in his home.

On his deathbed, George told the attending priest not to worry about the state of his soul, but asked if he could have some peaches before he died (1942).

George lies buried in the lot Dolores inherited, which is located on one side of San Jose's town plaza. The Japanese, at the time, had taken over the cemetery and turned it into an airstrip.

Note: Edward, Frances and Robert eventually lived in the US and are buried there. Laura retired as supervisor of English in the Division of City Schools of Manila. She takes great pride in being the daughter of a Thomasite and having continued her father's work in Philippine education.

The Sacred Heart's merciful love

MUSTARD SEED

Joseph Galdon, S.J.

THE SACRED Heart is a very wonderful model for us. The importance of the Sacred Heart of Jesus was revealed in the merciful love of God that was revealed in both the Old and the New Testaments. There was much teaching in the Bible about the primacy of the love of Jesus and his Kingship in our world.

Message to St. Margaret Mary

There was a very, wonderful message of the Lord to St. Margaret Mary Alacoque about the Sacred Heart. The Lord appeared to St. Margaret Mary for about 18 months around the year 1670 and said to her: "Behold the Sacred Heart of Jesus which has so much loved men and women in your world." The Lord also told Margaret Mary about the sacred love of Jesus, that we should always imitate the love of Jesus in our lives and we ought to celebrate the feast of the Sacred Heart on the first Friday of each month. We should also spend one hour on a Thursday before the first Friday in memory of Christ's agony and pray for all the sinners in the world. The Lord also told Margaret Mary that we should have a solemn Feast Day of the Sacred Heart at least once a year.

Devotion

'According to Pope Pius XI, we should celebrate the monthly First Friday with at least a holy hour in a votive Mass and a conversion of our sins. He also said we should celebrate the solemn feast of the Sacred Heart on a Friday after the second Sunday of the Pentecost, the coming of the Holy Spirit to all of us.

Pius XI also called devotion to the Sacred Heart as the synthesis and foundation of our whole religion and the norm of a more perfect life for us. Leo XIII also called the Sacred Heart as the most excellent form of religion and Pius XII said it is the most perfect expression of the Christian religion and strict obligations for all the faithful in their love of God and their brothers and sisters. In 1956, Pius XII published a description of the nature of devotion to the Sacred Heart: "The physical heart of Jesus is a symbol of His holy love. His total love is symbolized in His Sacred Heart." The Heart of Christ is a symbol of His sensible love and affection and the spiritual love of God, His father. His spiritual love is the same as the Father and the Holy Spirit and their love of sinful mankind.

Let us pray

I heard a nice song on the radio which I am sure Jesus would sing to us on First Friday and his Sacred Heart feast day. That song of Jesus says: "Let me take you away to holiness!" So let us pray: "Father of Mercy and love, we rejoice in the gifts of love that we have received from the Sacred Heart of Jesus, your Son. We have sometimes sinned and wounded the heart of your Son Jesus. Help us to prove our grateful and holy hearts and make amends for our sins and become holier because of our devotion to the Sacred Heart." A good prayer for us is also alleluia. That means we praise the Lord for the Sacred Heart.

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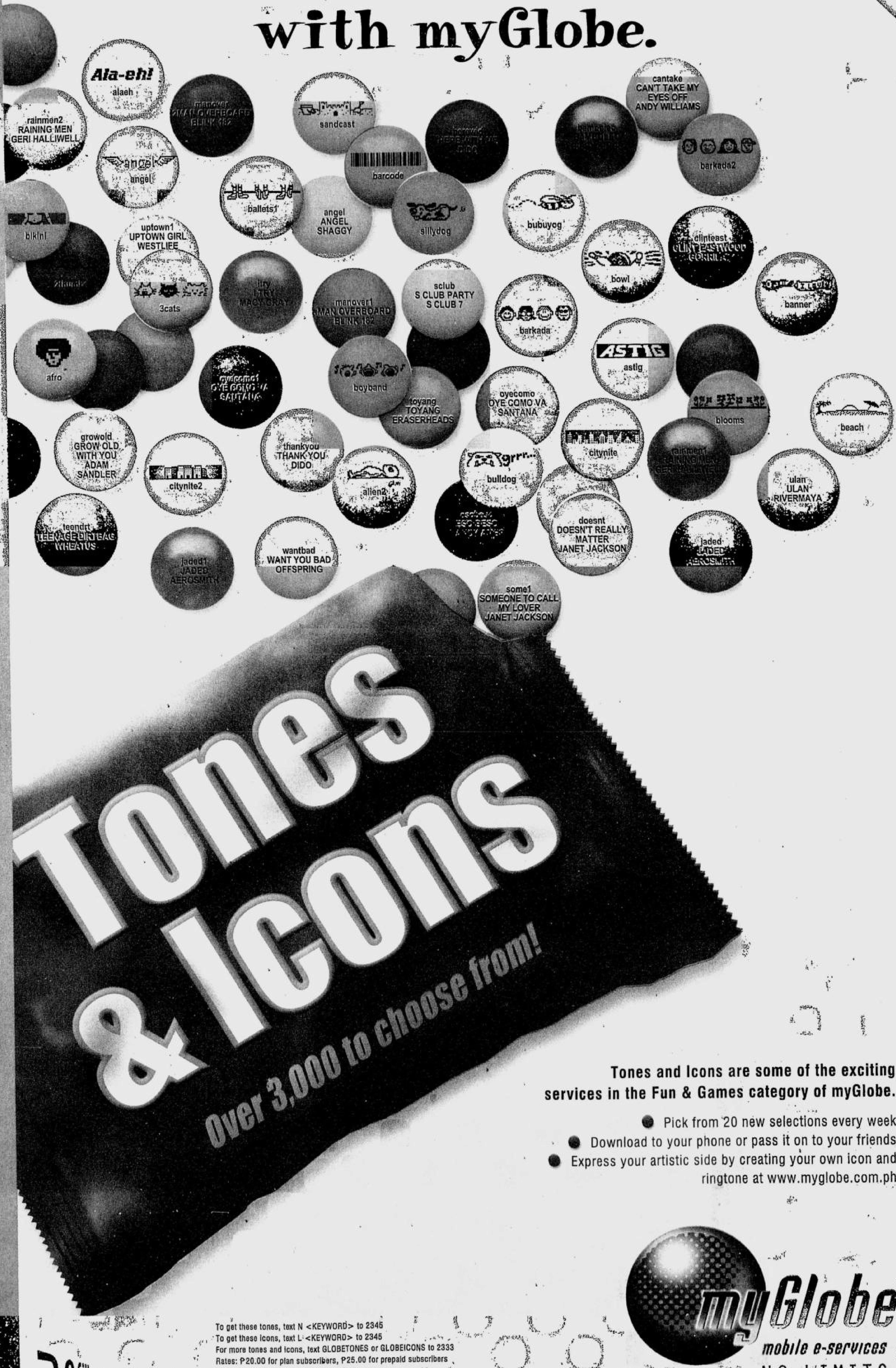
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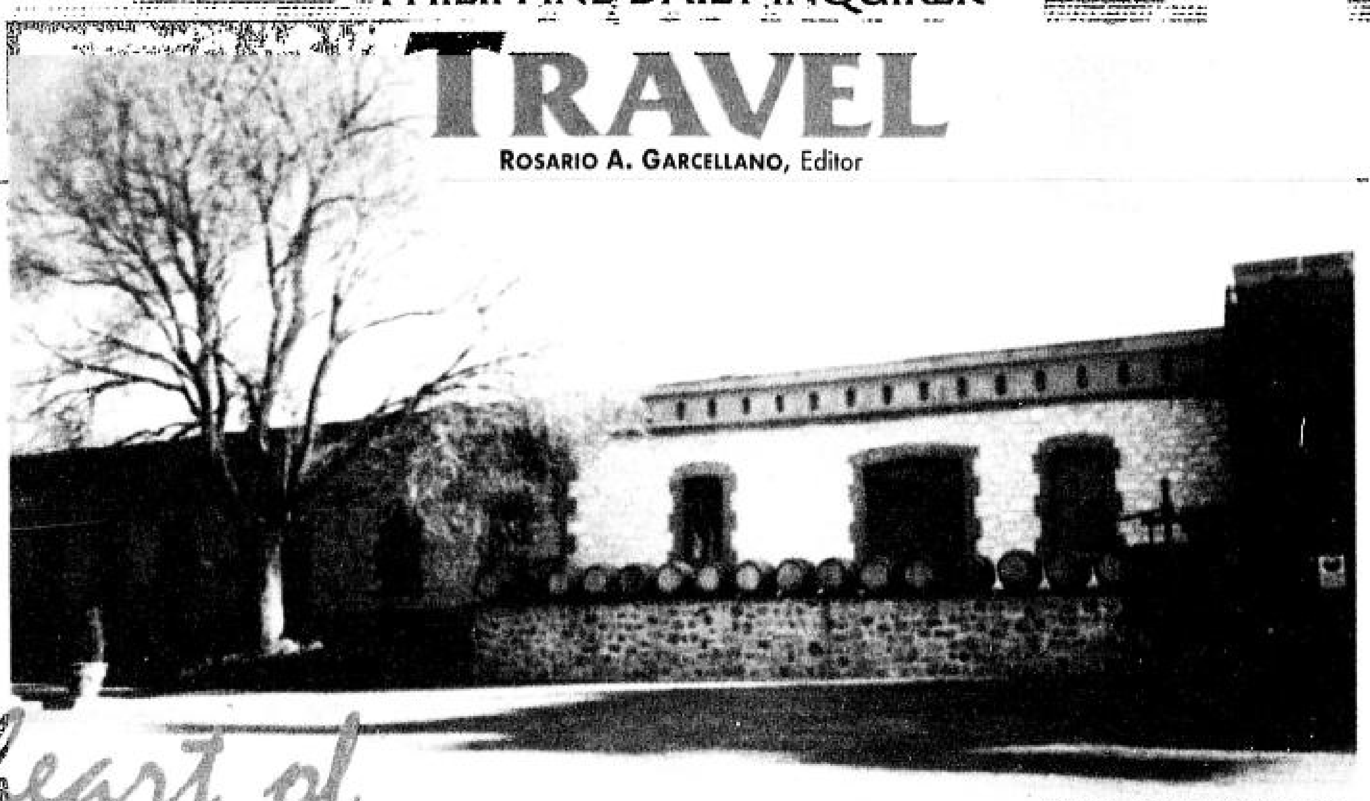
TRAVEL

ROSARIO A. GARCELLANO, Editor



AT the garden of Yalumba.

In the heart of Barossa Valley

TEXT AND PHOTOS
BY ANGELINA G. GOLOY

WHEN the ubiquitous yellow neon "M" of the popular burger store first appeared on the Roman skyline in 1986, journalist-poet Carlos Petrini saw red. He decried the entry of the fastfood chain as an affront to his country's cultural heritage and national passion, good food and conviviality.

Petrini's protest gave rise to what is known today as the Slow Food Movement, a worldwide campaign to put the brakes on homogenous instant meals by preserving and reviving the distinct flavors and aromas of traditional regional cuisine, along with their history and folklore, as well as their proper appreciation.

Through food festivals and wine tasting conventions, its 65,000 disciples in 45 countries show the way to enjoy food—unhurriedly, in a relaxed ambience, and complemented by charming conversation and fine wine.

Australia—where I learned about the movement in a magazine article—is one of the countries where it is present. This comes as no surprise as Australia has a reputation for good food and wine, the main reasons, in fact, for my most recent trip there. Qantas, currently promoting a Wine Enthusiasts' Tour, arranged a sampling, with a culinary tour thrown in among other side servings.

The destination was South Australia, the premier wine state. "About 70 percent of the wines Australia exports come from this state," says Michael Seeliger, market coordinator for Asia-Japan of the South Australia Tourist Commission (SATC), in an interview in Adelaide, the state's capital city. The wines are produced in over 100 wineries located in six major wine regions, the top ones being Barossa Valley, McLaren Vale, Clare Valley and Coonawarra.

"Six out of 10 glasses of Australian wine—the best six—are made within three hours' drive of Adelaide," according to the itinerary prepared by the SATC. The city itself, it adds, is "where much of the Australian cuisine now delighting the world was created."

Key priority

Wine tourism is the commission's key priority as South Australia attracts more visitors to wineries than any other state. Building on this strength, a Wine Tourism Advisory Board has recommended, among other strategies, the promotion of South Australia as "Wine Australia."

Naturally the highlight of my trip was a tour of the state's largest and best-known winemaking region—Barossa Valley, home to more than 50 large producers of mostly world-famous Shiraz and Reisling.

The valley owes its reputation for fine wines to a fertile soil and a Mediterranean climate (warm, dry summers and mild, wet winters). This being winter, the grape harvest begun in autumn continues, and vines are pruned—these days, mostly by machines, our guide says. Lemons, grapefruits, oranges, limes and other citrus fruits are also harvested.

The rich produce has inspired the region's tradition of growing, cooking, curing and preserving foods, handed down by the English and German families who settled there more than 150 years ago.

> The region owes its reputation for fine wines to a fertile soil and a Mediterranean climate

Before we left South Australia, my guide from Tranquil Travel Service, Maggie Yu, drove me through four of the 60 wineries at McLaren Vale in the Fleurieu Peninsula. Do these labels–d'Arenberg, Tatachilla, Hardy's Tintara, or Olive Grove—ring a bell?

Now most wine-tasting tour participants go for the wine. I, having no illusions whatsoever about my *vino* IQ, go for the wineries. Often surrounded by lovely gardens, they soothe the spirit with their peaceful pleasantness, as though to temper the exhilarating effects of the scents and flavors emanating from them.

The tour to Barossa Valley, however, had something more: flair. To set the mood (or was it pace?) of the day's experience, it started with a train ride—a leisurely 90-minute journey aboard a refurbished 1950s "Bluebird" series of luxury carriages. This was, one imagined, exactly how the Slow Movement would do it.

The idea is to give tourists a feel of first-class rail travel in those days, when one could find on board, besides a formal dining hall, a beauty parlor and a post office! (The Adelaide Railway Station, where passengers board the train, is in itself a trip back in time.)

Shiraz

The carriages of the Barossa Wine Train are named after grape varieties, each with a mini-bar offering complimentary tea, coffee, soda, juice, biscuits, and, of course, wine from the region. I was assigned to Shiraz.

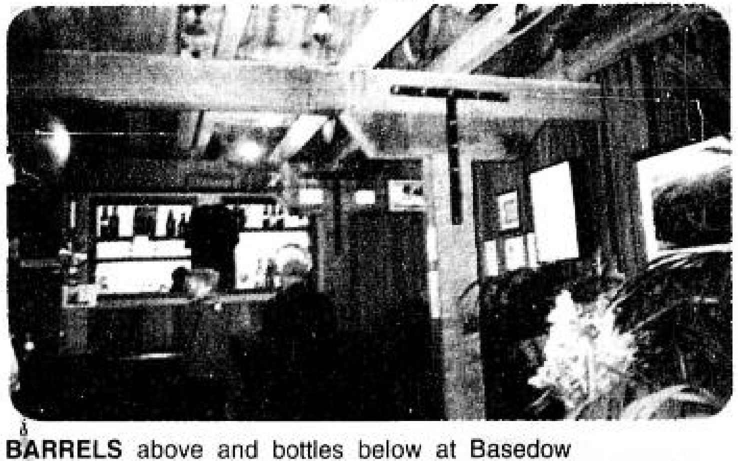
Decommissioned in 1990, the Bluebird train underwent a A$1-million upgrade in 1997 and was put back on the tracks as a tourist vehicle—an ingenious idea, one might add, as the wide windows allow a cinematic presentation of gently sloping hills, farmland and vineyards.

But in the rolling panorama, one could easily miss the creek where the famous Jacob's Creek wines got their name. Another point of interest is the Powerfield light aircraft airport, the second busiest airport in the Southern Hemisphere, where international airlines like Qantas and British Airways send their pilots for training.

Besides a tour guide's piped-in commentary, brochures and fact sheets are available in a pouch underneath each window. One, titled "Tasting Notes," gives suggestions on how best to appreciate the taste of wines. Here are some tips:

ALL aboard the Wine Train.

PERKING up the morning at d'Arenberg



BARRELS above and bottles below at Basedow

- On a warm day, sweeter or fruity flavors are more appealing to the taste buds; in cold weather, full-bodied red wines.
- Women must not wear perfume on the wrists and must wipe off lipstick as these scents blend with the wine, confusing the senses.
- Hold the glass by the stem, not the bulb, so as not to alter the correct tasting temperatures of the wines.
- To savor the flavors fully, smell the wine before tasting; there are sensory connections between the nose and the palate.
- Start with light whites, then the heavier varieties, then move on to the light reds and heavier reds.
- Drink lots of water between wines to counteract the drying effects of alcohol and also to keep the palate fresh so that the wines don't start to taste the same.

7 wineries

The Bárossa Wine Train pulls up in Tanunda in the heart of Barossa Valley. It is one of four towns hosting the big wineries, the others being Lydoch, Nurioopta and Angaston.

While most passengers board coaches for the visit to the wineries, seven of us continue our tour in style, in a 1952 Chevrolet with two rows of back seats and a small tow luggage compartment.

A day of touring usually covers about four or five wineries, more for private groups like ours. We covered seven. The first was St. Hallet Wines, best known for its Old Block Shiraz, which comes from 100-year-old vines.

A stone's throw away was The Keg Factory, not a winery but a manufacturer of handcrafted wine racks, stools and other bar furniture, as well as kegs from old barrels, permeated with fortified wines and spirits.

Basedow, the second oldest family-owned winery in the region, was founded in 1896 by Johannes Christopher Basedow, a carpenter who was among those that built some of the valley's landmarks, the winery included. From the street-level entrance, one descends a short flight of steps to get to the bar, right above which is the cellar and its rows of wine barrels.

While Basedow has the feel of a cozy log cabin on a rainy afternoon, the Peter Lehmann Wines cellar is a bright, breezy receiving room of a mansion on a sunny morn, complete with a fireplace and a view of the lawns on the banks of the Para River. Past the bar is a hall showcasing the winery's awards, foremost of which is "Best Reisling in the World," given at the 1998 Royal Melbourne Wine Show.

Straight out of a fairy tale book is the Richmond Grove winery, distinct with its handmade copper spire, a hawk weather vane perched on its tip. Where the path curves in front of the spire, a signpost shows visitors the way to other famous wineries in the neighborhood—Peter Lehmann, Langmeil, Veritas and Stanley Brothers.

On the lawns between Peter Lehmann and Richmond Grove, food, wine and music lovers gather one summer evening every year in February to watch international singing stars perform at the festival billed "Barossa Under the Stars."

From Elderton Wines, where the added attraction is an old delivery truck displayed on the front lawn, our group proceeded to Kaesler Wines, where we had kangaroo steak for lunch. The meat was so incredibly tender you almost did not have to chew it, but you'd probably be gritting your teeth trying your darnedest to keep the image of the marsupial out of your mind's eye.

Australia's oldest family-owned winery, Yalumba, capped the tour. Established in 1849, it hosts the "harvest market" as part of the Barossa Vintage Festival, that country's biggest regional wine festival held every other year in April.

By now our spirited lot was shying away from the bar and sauntering out into the gardens to soak in the afternoon sunshine, fanned gently by foliage.

As with the start, the tour ended with flair. Before delivering us to the Tanunda railway station for the train ride back to Adelaide, our guide stopped at Menglers Hill. There, as we looked out to the vineyards below, he handed one more glass of wine to each of us for a farewell toast to Barossa Valley. Cheers!

The South Australia Wine Enthusiasts' Tour is available until Oct. 28. For details, call Qantas Holidays, 812-3734.

VIEW from the Menglers Hill lookout: sculpted figure watching over Barossa Valley

TRAVEL BRIEFS

Tourism volunteers

TOURISM Secretary Richard Gordon has urged some 150,000 Filipino workers in Singapore to serve as "tourism volunteers" to attract visitors to the Philippines.

"We are asking each overseas Filipino worker to bring at least one foreign visitor to the Philippines each year so we can uplift the dignity and livelihood of Filipinos back home," Gordon said in meetings with representatives of Filipino organizations in Singapore.

The Tourism Volunteer 12 (V-12) Program is aimed at mobilizing the estimated 7.38 million OFWs worldwide.

"The overseas Filipino is the most natural and cost-effective resource that can be tapped to bring tourists to the Philippines," Gordon said. "When a Filipino abroad commits to become a tourism volunteer, he gains power to change the course of Philippine tourism and economy. '*Isang turista lang ang kailangan, Kabayan* (It only takes one tourist, my fellow Filipino)!"

Gordon launched the V-12 program during President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's state visit to Malaysia early this month.

The initial batch of tourism volunteers comes from that country where 640,000 Filipinos are currently employed.

'Fiesta Mexicana'

THE HISTORY, culture and spirit of Mexico will come alive in "Fiesta Mexicana," a special presentation of the Hyatt Regency Manila in cooperation with the Embassy of Mexico, Princess Cruises, China Airlines and Mexicana Airlines.

The festival, to be held on Sept. 6-16 at the Hyatt's Café Al Fresco, will have as theme the Mexican Riviera, for which Princess Cruises is launching a new itinerary out of Los Angeles, California.

Eve Cayaban, president of the cruise line's general sales agent in Manila, said the Sea Princess would set off on Sept. 29 and take passengers to the ports of Cabo San Lucas, Mazatlan and Puerto Vallarta.

She said that starting in March, the Star Princess would take over, becoming "the largest and most amenity-filled ship ever to serve this cruise market."

Guests at Hyatt have the chance to join the Mexican Riviera cruise for free, as the grand raffle prize for festival patrons. The lucky couple will be flown out by China Airlines to Los Angeles, start-off point of the cruise.

The festival also features an exhibit organized by the Embassy of Mexico at the hotel's mezzanine foyer.

Toll-free numbers

BANKARD Inc. is providing its members toll-free numbers covering both domestic and international locations.

Its customer service can now be reached from anywhere in the Philippines free by dialing 1800-10-BANKARD (226-5273). In Metro Manila, the number is still 634-6644.

This is also available in 21 other countries by dialing +8000-BANKARD ("+" is the country access code). For example: To call from the United States, dial 001-8000-BANKARD.

For easy reference, here's a list of international country access codes: Australia–0011, Belgium–00, Brazil–000, Canada–011, Denmark–00, Finland–00 or 990, France–00, Germany–00, Hawaii–00, Ireland–00, Israel–014, Japan–001, Korea–001 or 008, Netherlands–00, New Zealand–00, Norway–00, Singapore–001, Spain–00, Switzerland–00, Thailand–001, and USA–001.

Pilgrimage

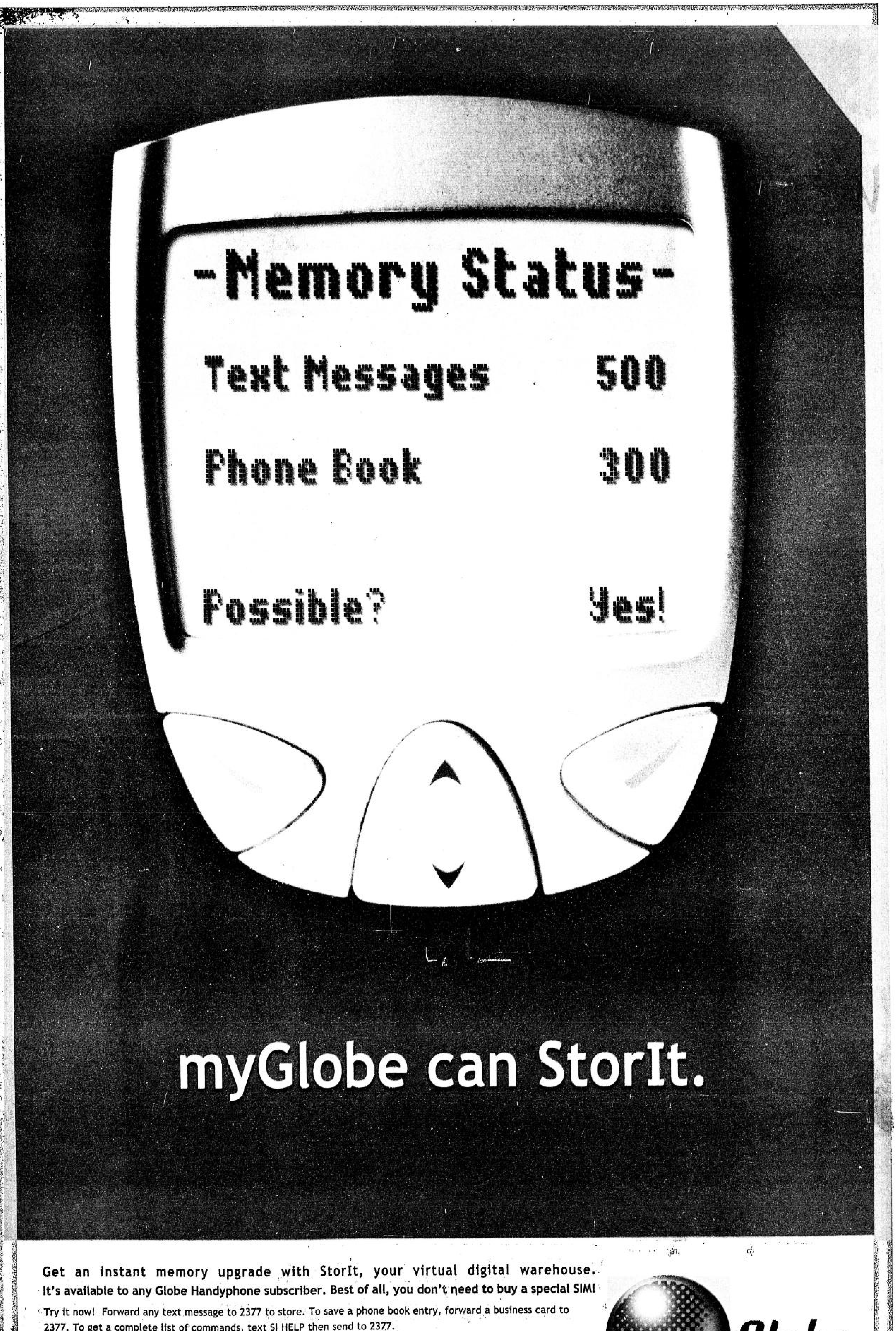
ADAM'S Express Travel is organizing a Marian pilgrimage and tour of Europe with a departure date of Oct. 12.

The pilgrimage centers included in the tour are Lourdes, Fatima, Banneux, Zaragosa, Medjugorje, Guadalupe and Paris. Other miracle sites are Lisieux and Santarem.

Among the sights to see are the Dalmatian coast, the medieval town of Brugge, Vienna, the Unesco heritage city of Toledo, Rome, Madrid, Brussels and Lisbon.

Participants may take the Medjugorje portion on Oct. 12-16, the Central Europe portion on Oct. 16-29, or the Holy Land portion on Oct. 29-Nov. 5, dependent on their time or budget.

Interested parties are advised to make early reservations for the processing of required visas. Call Adam's at 536-1736/37.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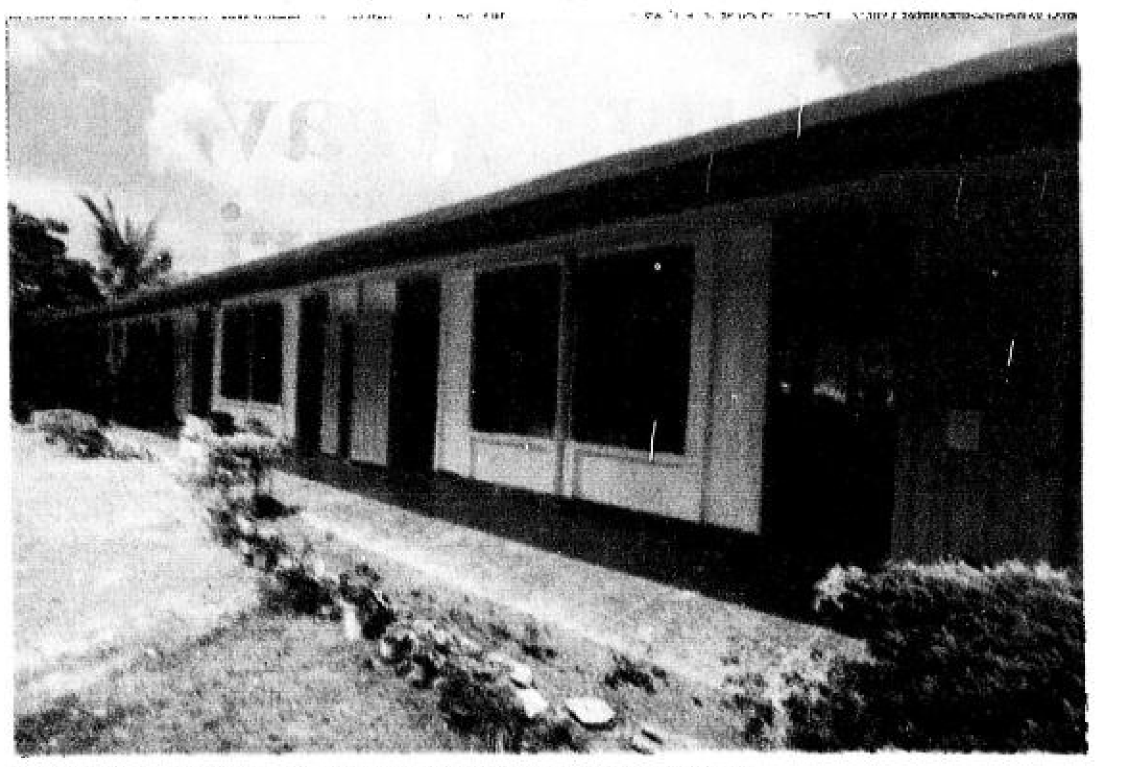
SCHOOLCHILDREN of the backwoods look forward to a bright future.



THE LITTLE Red Schoolhouse on a mountaintop of northern Cebu

Red bricks of courage

By Constantino Tejero
Photos by Noli Tomacruz

ON TOP of Mt. Sak-on, in the middle of the wilderness, is a little schoolhouse with brick-red roofing, gutters and flooring, beige walls and slate-gray doors. It is surrounded by a few ornamental plants—wilting Vietnam rose and sorry-looking bougainvillea.

The schoolhouse has three classrooms, each with two blackboards, a wooden rostrum, beige plastic lift-top desks with monoblock chairs, and a toilet.

On the walls of the middle classroom are sayings scrawled on strips of *cartolina*. One reads: "Don't let fear stand in the way of your dreams." Another reads: "Wisdom is the reward you get for a lifetime of listening when you'd have preferred to talk."

Pasted on the door of the first room facing the footpath leading to the schoolyard are yellow paper cutups spelling out "Welcome Visitors."

The school is located in barangay Mulao in Liloan town 20 km north of Cebu City. It is accessible from the highway only through 15 km of rough narrow road on the mountainside. It has three teachers and 104 pupils.

The old Marcos-type building nearby is a condemned structure. It was destroyed by Typhoon Rufing in 1990. For almost a decade, teachers and pupils had to hold classes in its shell.

They also utilized for classrooms the derelict two-room structure a few meters down the slope, which was originally intended for a library and Home Economics and Livelihood Education activities. They had to make do with whatever above their heads that could shelter them from the sun and the rain, until they were gifted with the Little Red Schoolhouse.

A DAILY 2-km walk to school cannot stop Cherry An Bantiles from getting to the top of her class.

Quality education

Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines Inc. (CCFPI), in cooperation with the Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP), is donating such three-classroom structures, including facilities and furnishings, to "address the lack of access to quality education specifically in the rural areas."

CCFPI has committed to build 50 schoolhouses in five years, in support of the Unicef and DECS Multi-Grade School Project, with a total cost of P101.7 million. The program was started in 1997 and implemented the following year. Over 30 such structures have already been constructed in about 20 provinces from the North to the South.

To avail of the program, the Department of Education, Culture and Sports provides CCFPI and PBSP profiles of multi-grade schools in accessible areas. And the school has to meet the following criteria:

- The school site is titled in the name of DECS.
- It is a multi-grade elementary school and likely to remain the same in the next five years, considering the trend of enrolment.
- It has no existing standard school building, or the existing one is temporary, makeshift or dilapidated, therefore unfit for effective classroom use.
- It is not a recipient of the DECS-TEEP School Building Program.
- It has an organized and active partnership with the community in supporting effective learning.
- The parent-teacher association is willing to participate in the construction of the school building, and assume other responsibilities to improve its facilities and make them attractive to pupils, teachers and the community.
- The local government, particularly the barangay officials, is willing to maintain the building and support the programs of the school.

Sets of training

A budget of P1.4 million per structure covers labor, transportation and cost of materials (also including desks, blackboards, water pump, flagpole). The construction, managed by the PBSP, runs for 2-3 months, with the building's frame to be finished within 45 days.

Keith Abilar, PBSP membership and involvement program officer for the Visayas, says Coca-Cola, PBSP and DECS have decided that, as much as possible, no funds shall be released to government agencies, as these are prone to corruption.

Part of the package is an institution-building program for the recipient community, specifically for teachers and parents. This involves three sets of training: on strategic planning, team building and leadership. PBSP manages the community training, while the Community of Learners Foundation handles the teacher training in coordination with the DECS.

After the schoolhouse's turnover to the DECS, PBSP conducts a quarterly monitoring of the project for a year, until it fully becomes government property. With a new building and all facilities in place, it is hoped "the quality of teaching and learning in the foundational grades can also be improved."

A brass marker states the Mulao Elementary School building was completed Oct. 19, 1998, indicating this was one of the first such structures to be finished. The building, though, looks older than it is. That is because it is poorly maintained.

Poor community

Facing the flagpole is a small broken bell suspended in midair. In front of the building is a rusty drum half-filled with dirty rainwater. There are gray watermarks and brown smudges on the walls. One room has a missing doorknob.

The septic tank is busted, and the toilets have been turned into *bodega* for brooms, floor scrubs, stuff and bits. On one side of the yard, on a low ridge, garbage is being dumped.

The community is poor, consisting mostly of corn and mango farmers. Busy to earn their living and barely able to clothe and feed their children, parents do not have any more time and means for the school's upkeep. And there are only three female teachers to oversee it.

Confounding the situation is the lack of water. Each child has to bring from home his or her own bottle of drinking water along with lunch *baon* in the morning.

They have to depend on rainfall or walk down the hill to get a pail of water for their plants. Thus there are only sparse hedgerows and ornamentals growing around the school, though it is located in the heart of the forest.

On the terraced slope above the winding footpath are several short sticks on the parched clayey ground, one has to bend down to identify what they are. These are pegs holding up short *alugbate* stalks with no leaves, or maybe two leaves with a tiny cluster of berries—so what happens to photosynthesis? And this is supposed to be the children's vegetable garden plot?

Ranking pupils

Despite the hardship, head teacher Teresita Icot says the children's learning development is average, and cases of malnutrition is moderate.

Now that they have a new building, the biggest obstacle to learning is the lack of books. The new English textbook for Grade 5, for example, Icot puts at a ratio of 14 books to 23 pupils.

When the children have not done their assignments, the reason they give is either they are too busy with household chore such as fetching water 2 km away, or their parents who are mostly uneducated cannot help them with their lessons.

Every Friday, there is a school feeding of either *binegnet* (rice porridge with *gata*, *saging*, *camote*, cassava) or vegetables (soupy dish of *malunggay*, *gabi*, *kalabasa*, *dilis*, *talong*). The ingredients come from the parents, and teachers and pupils cook them in the derelict building.

There are more boys than girls here, with a ratio of 3:1. Though schooled in the wilderness, these children would not be left behind when they go to the secondary school in the *poblacion*. Top pupils of Mulao Elementary School have gone on to become ranking students in high school and college, and eventually accomplished professionals.

Cherry An Bantiles, 10, who is now in Grade 4, will be one of them. She is a slight dusky girl with deep, dark, sad eyes. No. 1 in class since the first grade, she says her favorite subject is Math, usually a boy's turf.

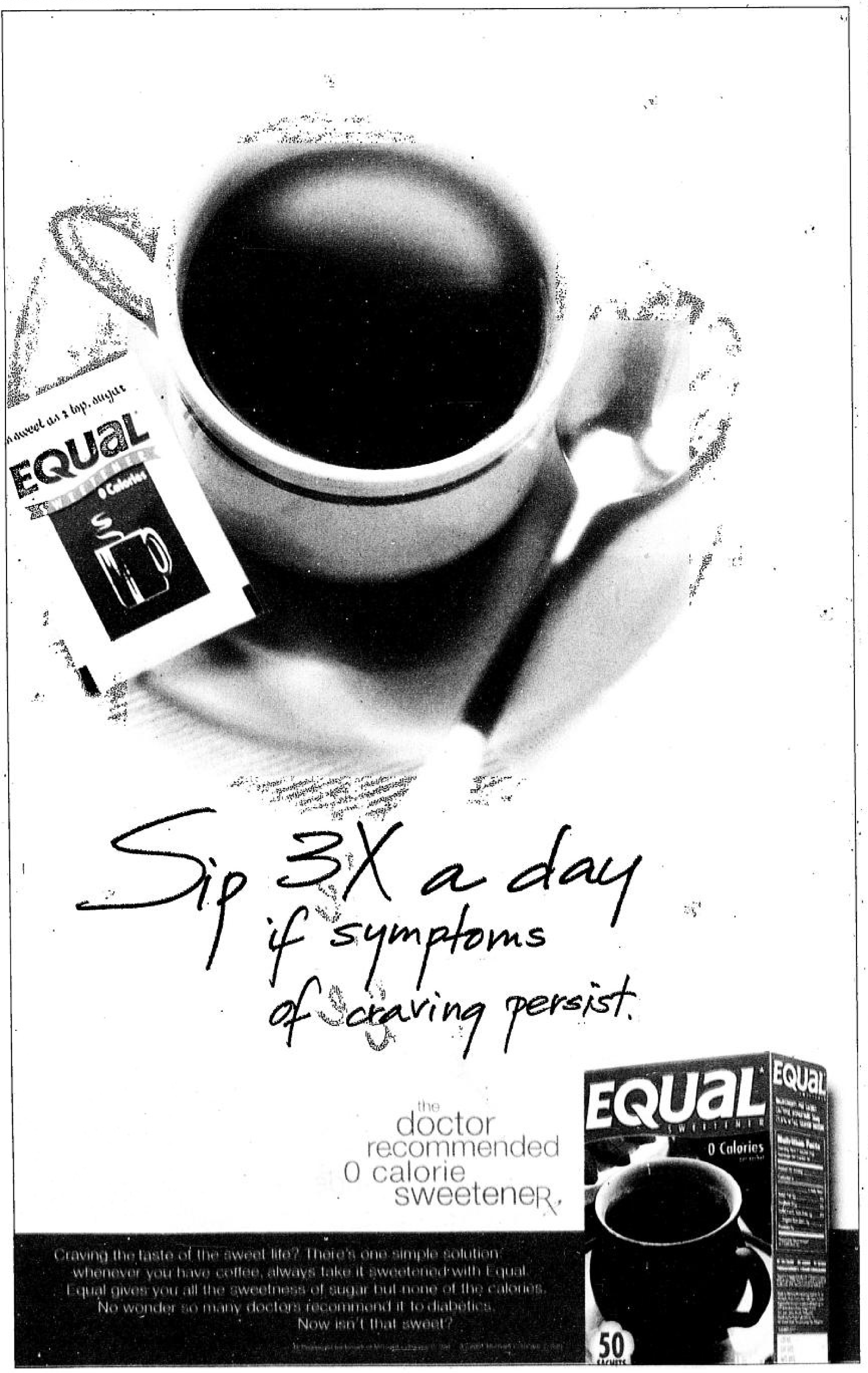
Every day she walks to school from barrio Lumanoy 2 km away. Her elder brother is in third-year high school. Her mother is tending to an 8-month-old baby. Her father is away, working as a welder in Mandaue City and coming home only on weekends.

But that doesn't weaken her resolve. Asked what she'd want to be when she grows up, she replies, "Teacher."

And why? In spite of what she sees her teachers are going through in this wilderness?

After a pause, she says, with a penetrating look of her sad eyes: "*Dahil gusto kong makatulong sa mga bata.*"

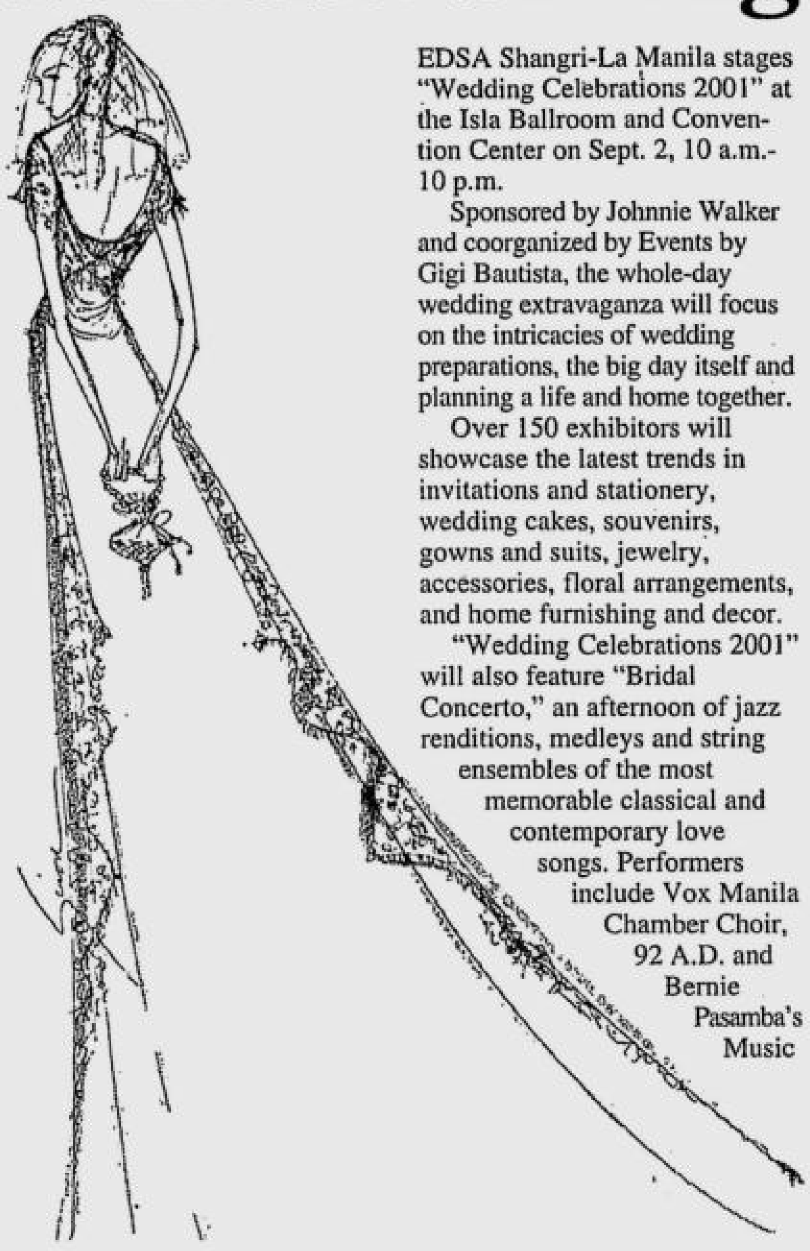
THE DERELICT library and HE building



the doctor recommended 0 calorie sweeteneR.

Craving the taste of the sweet life? There's one simple solution: whenever you have coffee, always take it sweetened with Equal. Equal gives you all the sweetness of sugar but none of the calories. No wonder so many doctors recommend it to diabetics. Now isn't that sweet?

Wedding extravaganza at Edsa Shangri-La



EDSA Shangri-La Manila stages "Wedding Celebrations 2001" at the Isla Ballroom and Convention Center on Sept. 2, 10 a.m.-10 p.m.

Sponsored by Johnnie Walker and coorganized by Events by Gigi Bautista, the whole-day wedding extravaganza will focus on the intricacies of wedding preparations, the big day itself and planning a life and home together.

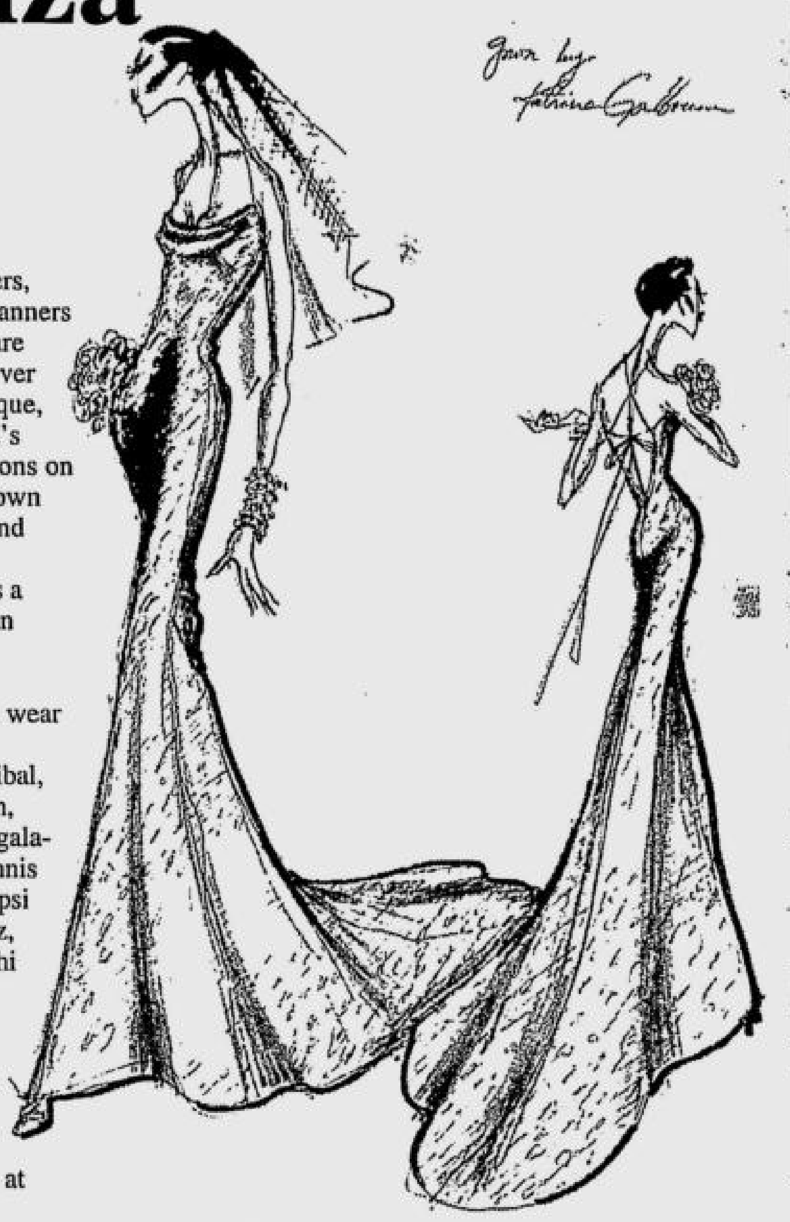
Over 150 exhibitors will showcase the latest trends in invitations and stationery, wedding cakes, souvenirs, gowns and suits, jewelry, accessories, floral arrangements, and home furnishing and decor.

"Wedding Celebrations 2001" will also feature "Bridal Concerto," an afternoon of jazz renditions, medleys and string ensembles of the most memorable classical and contemporary love songs. Performers include Vox Manila Chamber Choir, 92 A.D. and Bernie Pasamba's Music Consultancy.

Other activities include consultations with couturiers, videographers, wedding planners and photographers, skin-care demonstrations and makeover sessions from VMV, Clinique, Estee Lauder and the Pond's Institute, wine tasting, lessons on caring for your wedding gown and *barong* from Henkel and marriage counseling.

Highlighting the event is a bridal fashion show set to an orchestra and live chorale, featuring the latest bridal creations and men's formal wear by designers Pepito Albert, Natori, Rhett Eala, Carla Sibal, Randy Ortiz, Michele Sison, Katrina Goulbourn, Pia Regala-Hebron, Arcy Gayatin, Dennis Lustico, Tippi Ocampo, Pepsi Herrera, Dong Omaga-Diaz, Marden Iglesias and Tonichi Nocom.

"Wedding Celebrations 2001" is open to the public. Admission is free. Call Edsa Shangri-La's Catering office at 633-8888 local 3104 or Events at 750-0314.



Bride and debutante fair holds raffle

HOLIDAY Inn Resort Clark Field's "Nostalgia: Bride and Debutante Fair 2001" gives lucky attendees a chance to win an overnight stay at the resort or dinner for two in Mequeni Café.

On Sept. 1 and 2, simply register at the Grand Ballroom entrance and marvel at the wonderful exhibits of Pampanga's best bride and debutante suppliers—fashion designers, wedding coordinators, cakes, florists, photographers and videographers.

Debutantes and couples-to-be get a wealth of tips on planning the perfect debut and wedding with talks and demonstrations on budgeting, choosing invitations, giveaways and accessories, hair and makeup, flower arrangements and cake decorating.

The highlight of the fair is a grand fashion show on Sept. 2 featuring the creations of La Casal, Noel Calma, Rommel Balajadia and Manelle Chamian set to the romantic music of Noel Lopez.

The lucky winners will be notified by phone.

Call 845-1888 or (45) 599-8000.

How does she walk out of marriage with her kids?

LOVE NOTES

Joe D' Mango

DEAR Joe,

Just call me Adrianne, a proud mother but an unhappy wife. I've found myself gradually falling out of love with my husband.

I don't have a new man in my life nor am I planning to have one. But I want to leave my husband and lead my own life. I am tired of arguments and petty quarrels.

I know I can live without him, but not without my kids.

Friends say I am lucky to have him for a husband. I can't deny the fact that he has a lot of good qualities—he's responsible, a handy man, he gets along with people easily, he's great with the kids. But he is ill-tempered. I can't deny the fact that I am also at fault, for I am a stubborn Taurean. I've tried to change, but he hasn't. So we always clash.

I want to end this marriage, but how? How do I walk out of our relationship with my kids? How can I talk him into it?

ADRIANNE

Getting attracted to someone and getting a chance to know him more is very exciting. Getting into a relationship with that person and sharing mutual feelings of affection is even more rewarding. When we feel that we love someone so much, we prepare ourselves in making that relationship complete by walking down the aisle with that person in marriage. This is where we make ourselves believe that we will just live happily ever after. But the truth of the matter is, spending the rest of your life living with your spouse is a totally different story. This is the part of the marriage where the vows we've made to love each other for richer or for poorer, in sickness and health till death do us part are put to their final test.

Falling in love is easy, getting married isn't that hard either. But keeping that love alive and making it grow every day are only easier said than done. Many marriages lose their romance after only a few years. What used to be such an ideal relationship suddenly becomes stressed out by factors beyond our control. In-laws, children, emotional and physical problems, career, competition, pride and finances are just some of the things that we have to keep in balance in our marriage. And staying up on our feet to do these takes a lot of patience, perseverance and unselfish effort.

There are times when couples would fight over the pettiest of things. During these exchanges of verbal punches, our suppressed feelings of anger and feelings of being misunderstood, taken for granted and being blamed for everything can make us utterly bitter and in one short instance, lose our love for our spouse. This is the point where we want to give up and leave. The point where we can adamantly say, "I've had enough. I can't take this anymore, I'm leaving."

There will be a trade-off when you decide to move on. You know that you just cannot walk out with your kids and neither can you leave them alone. And even if you find a way to move out, I think your husband wouldn't just let you go without making you feel guilty. He would put all the blame on you again and tell your children that your family was shattered because their mom left them.

You would lose both ways, if you stay, you'd be miserable. But, if you go, I think you could eventually become miserable as well. This is the best time to make things that make you feel bad work to your advantage.

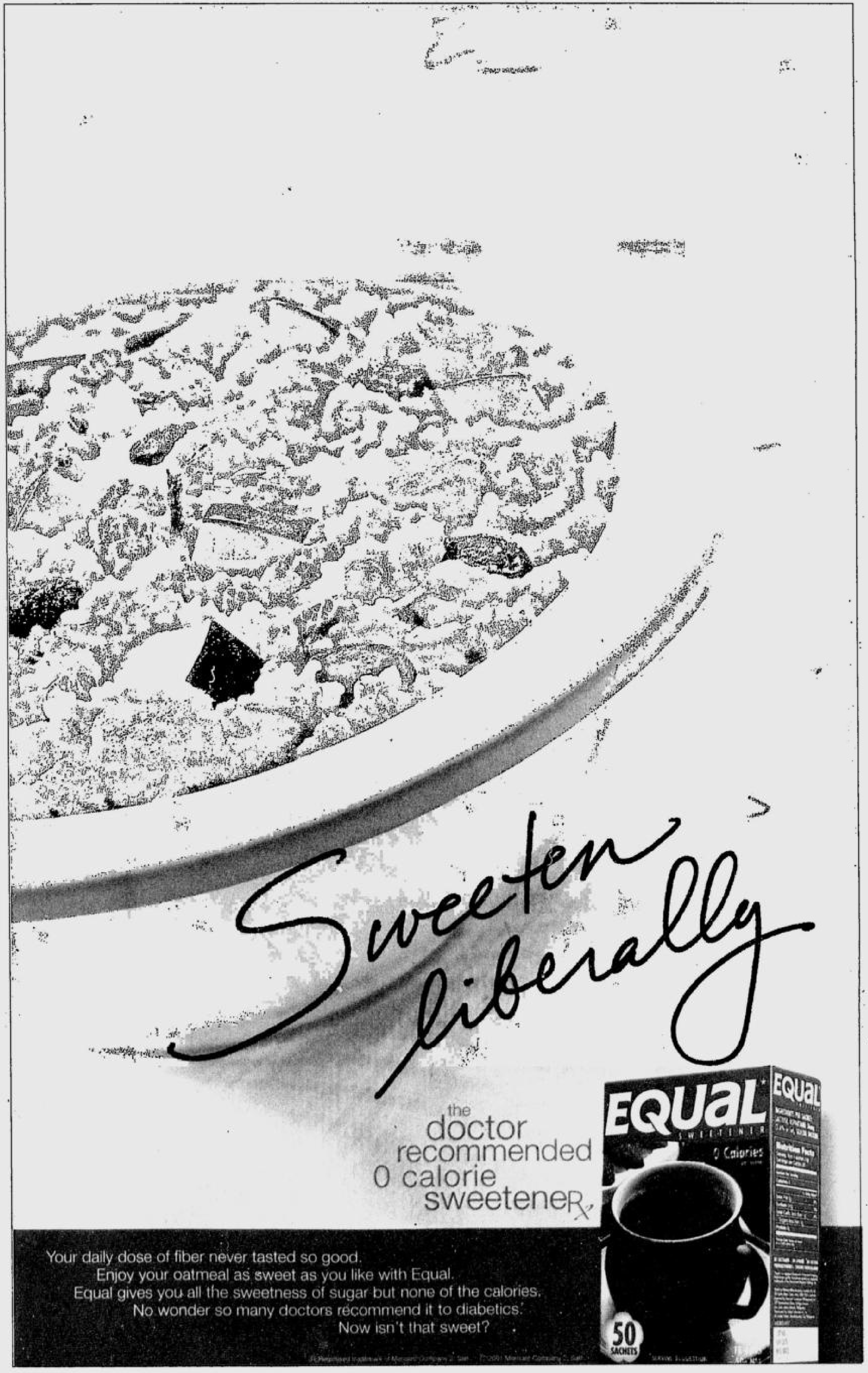
First, you have to realize that you are lucky because you are aware that there is a problem in your marriage. To your husband, those fights could just be his natural way of asserting his dominance over you. He probably isn't aware that you are just about to explode and call it quits. Secondly, this should make you realize that you have practically spent all your married years together, but, have you really spent time communicating with each other, openly sharing your thoughts and feelings without getting into a heated discussion? Thirdly, God has blessed you with beautiful children that have made you more than a proud mother. If you leave, you would be a proud wife but you would end up a regretful mother. Ask yourself, is this what you really want? Don't you want to take your marriage on a neutral plane, seek good counsel and open the possibility of honest reconciliation?

I have been in worst fights in my marriage. My wife and I acknowledge the fact every couple goes into battle once in a while. But after an exchange of bitterness, disappointments and hatred, we stop in silence and tears and look around. For somewhere in the battlefield, God will always open a window for grief to breathe out and a fresh air of hope to breeze in. I honestly believe that no marriage is so miserable that it cannot find happiness, there is no husband so unfaithful that he cannot change. There is no wife so nagging that she cannot tone down. There is no relationship so sick that it cannot recover and get well.

I hope that you will find a space in your heart to give your family another chance. You would have to give up a lot but the rewards of your sacrifices would give you joy beyond compare.

There are many of us who could be in the same battlefield. Many of us who could feel what Adrianne feels. There are many of us who want to give up. But, when we are just about to raise our hands let us surrender not to the people around us but to God who is in control. He is the only one who can breathe life to a dying relationship. He is the only one who can bring peace to a stormy marriage. He is the only one who gives us a new beginning, a new hope and a new life.

E-mail the author at dearjoe@lovenotes.fm or visit www.lovenotes.fm



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Heny Sison

SCHEDULE OF CLASSES

September 1 (Saturday) 9:00-1:00 p.m. P1,200 *BASIC CAKES & ICINGS FOR BEGINNERS by Heny Sison *Butter Cake w/ Butter Icing, Moist Chocolate w/ Fudge Frosting, Mocha Cake w/ No-Melt Butter Icing, Lemon Chiffon Cake w/ Boiled Icing and Sponge Cake w/ Whipped Cream Icing

September 1 (Saturday) 2:00-5:30 p.m. P1,200 CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY RECIPES by: Heny Sison *Dark Fruitcake, White Fruitcake, Walnut Torte, Rum-Raisin Walnut Cheesecake; Festive Cookie Bar and Prune Bar

September 3 (Monday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P2,000 BASIC FLOWER ARRANGEMENT by: Glenn Remorca, floral designer, Flowers of San Gregorio *Learn the theories, styles, trends, techniques, sourcing flower care and maintenance, basic forms, arrangements and flowers for wedding. Lecture, demonstration and hand-on production. Bring a pair of scissors.

September 4 (Tuesday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P1,500 OLD-FASHIONED DESSERTS by: Heny Sison *Honey Crunch Cake, Strawberry Shortcake, Mango Cake, Sanzrival, Melt in the Mouth Mamon and Jelly roll

September 5 (Wednesday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P1,200 HOLIDAY EDIBLE GIFTS by: Heny Sison *Christmas Bread, Lengua de Gato, Pinipig Polvoron, Florentines, Pine Nut Cookies & Empanaditas

September 6 (Thursday) 1:00-5:00 p.m. P1,500 HOLIDAY FINGERS FOOD by: Alleen Anastacio, Chef/Food Consultant, owner of C'est Si Bon and Goodies N' Sweet Bakeshop, graduate of culinaryat the California Culinary Academy. *Salmon Pate w/ Crostini, Scotch Quail Eggs, Spinach & Feta Triangles, Olive and Almond Palmiers, Cheesy Pastrami, Puffs & Crispy Ham & CheeseBalls

September 7 (Friday) 9:00-12:00 noon P1,200 THE COOKIE JAR by: Jill Sandique, Chef/Food Consultant & Food Stylist Blue Ribbon graduate of Peter Kump's Neew York Cooking School *Angel's Sigh, Walnut Balls, Almond Crescents, Traditional Peanut Butter Cookies, Turtle Bites and Cheddar Cheese Crackers

September 7 (Friday) 1:30-6:00 p.m. P1,500 DIMSUM II by: Katherine Sion, restaurateur (Ding Hao & Fat Kat), caterer and an expert in Chinese Cuisine *Steamed Pork Spareribs in Tausi Sauce, Chicken Siomai, Sharksin Siomai, Two Colors Siomai, Wanton Mami & Desserts

September 8 (Saturday) 9:00-12:00 noon P1,200 THE COOKIE PLATTER by: Jill Sandique *Apple Bars, Caramel Pecan Diamonds, Raspberry Nut Fingers, Pebble Bars, Double Chocolate Brownies & Breakfast Cookies

September 10 (Monday) 10:00-4:00 p.m. P1,500 LAURIAT SAMPLER III by: Katherine Sion *Hot & Sour Soup, Fried Seafood Roll, Stir-Fry Pork Kidney w/ Kutchay Flower, Braised Fishhead w/ Beancurd in Pot, Chicken Cutlets w/ Lemon Sauce & Fried Rice w/ Salted Fish

September 11 (Tuesday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,200 EDIBLE GIFTS FOR CHRISTMAS by: Jill Sandique *Chocolate Pecan Coffee Cake, Orange-Glazed Bundt Cake, Lattice Topped Apple Pie with Cider Sauce, Chocolate Caramel Tart, Christmas Cookies and Chocolate Chip Banana Loaf

September 12 (Wednesday) 9:00-12:30 p.m. P1,500 ITALIAN COOKING II by: Jill Sandique *Bruschetta, Crostini alla Toscana, Minestrone alla Genovese, Arrosto di Maile Latte, Sicilian Salad and Frozen Chocolate Pistachio Cream with Marsala Sauce

September 12 (Wednesday) 1:30-5:00 p.m. P1,500 CHRISTMAS DINNER by: Alleen Anastacio *Asparagus and Proscuitto Rolls, Cream of Brocolli Soup, Rose Petal Salad w/ Raspberry Vinaigrette, Herb Roasted Tenderloin with Mushroom Gravy, Seared Prawns with Sauce Choron, Sundried Tomato Pesto Pasta & Apple Pie with Bourbon Pecan Sauce

September 13 (Thursday) 9:00-12:30 p.m. P1,500 ITALIAN COOKING IV by: Jill Sandique *Antipasto, Saffron Risotto, Scallop Risotto, Ossobuco alla Milanese, Verze Sofegae and Crumble Cake

September 13 (Thursday) 1:30-5:00 p.m. P1,200 COFFEE! COFFEE! COFFEE! by: Alleen Anastacio *If you are planning to open a coffee shop this course is for you. Learn the four fundamentals of coffee brewing, home espresso, guide to steaming & foaming. Recipes: Caffé Latte, Caffé Mocha, Caffé Americano, Cappucino, Espresso, Macchiato and Espresso con Panna. Make fun toppings and garnishes and master the art of coffee making.

September 14 (Friday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,200 CAKE ART SPECIALTIES I by: Jill Sandique *Big Jacks, Mango Bars, Glazed Dark Chocolate Cake with Caramel Sauce, Pavlova, Pecan Pie Bars and Chocolate Silk

September 15 (Saturday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P2,000 SPECIALIZED FLOWER ARRANGEMENT by: Glenn Remorca *Learn different styles of table arrangement and home decors. Demonstration and hands-on production. Bring a pair of scissors.

September 17 (Monday) 1:00-4:00 p.m. P1,500 CHINESE COOKING MADE EASY III by: Katherine Sion *Spinach Soup, Sizzling Beef Tenderloin Chinese Style, Shrimp with Green Peas and Quail Eggs, Fried Sipak, Pan Fried Noodles with Chopsuey and Youngchow Fried Rice

September 18 (Tuesday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P1,200 FESTIVE BREADS by: Jill Sandique *Panettone, Milanese, Panettone Valdostrano, Gubana, Pan Dolce, Stollen and Wiener Gugelhupf

September 19 (Wednesday) 9:00-1:00 p.m. P1,500 FRENCH COOKING I by: Jill Sandique *Stuffed Mushrooms, Mussels Steam in White Wine, Braised Pork Loin with Prunes and Cream Sauce, Sauce Vinaigrette and its variations, Pommes de Terre Miette en Persillade and Oranges with Grand Marnier

September 19, 20 & 21 (Wed) 2:00-4:00 (Thursday-Friday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P10,000 FOOD STYLING WORKSHOP Instructors: Jill Sandique & Tom Tee, founding photographer of Food Magazine, owner of Linea Vida Photography & Digital Imaging Studio & photography consultant, TEAM EXPO *Learn the concept and practical technique to artistically present food in the camera. The emphasis will be on creating images, which will appeal to the senses. Specific food styling techniques will be covered including ice cream & other problem food. Professional tips will include selecting, caring for ingredients and reviving food for the camera. Full participation.

September 22 (Saturday) 9:30-4:00 p.m. P2,000 CHRISTMAS FLORAL CRAFTS by: Glenn Remorca *Learn how to make fresh & artificial Christmas decors for your home and your business. Assembly and design of Christmas wreaths, table centerpieces, door hangers & topiaries & more! in traditional and modern design. Sure moneymakers for the holidays. Demonstration & participation. Bring a pair scissors.

September 24 (Monday) 10:00-4:00 p.m. P1,750 BREAD BAKING WORKSHOP I by: Jill Sandique *Brioche, Egg Pan de Sal, Anadama Bread, Cinnamon Coffee Cake, Multigrain Bread, Pullman, American Black and Braided Loaf

September 25 (Tuesday) 10:00-4:00 p.m. P1,750 BREAD BAKING WORKSHOPII by: Jill Sandique *Cuban Bread, Pita, Soft Pretzel, Flour Tortilla, Naan, Poori, Baguette, Pain de Campagne and English Muffins

September 26 (Wednesday) 9:00-12:30 p.m. P1,500 FRENCH COOKING II by: Jill Sandique *Poached Scallops with Sauce Beurre Blanc, Tarragon Roast Chicken, Baked Tomatoes Provencale, Salad Nicoise, Pan Bagnat and Apple Charlotte

September 26 (Wednesday) 1:30-5:00 p.m. P1,500 SUNDAY LUNCH/BRUNCH by: Alleen Anastacio *Spicy Chicken Wings, Warm Potato Salad, Honey Mustard Pork Chops, Herbed Egg & Cucumber Sandwiches & Southwestern Corn Chowder

September 27 (Thursday) 9:00-12:30 p.m. P1,500 FRENCH COOKING III by: Jill Sandique *Leek & Potato Soup, Poached Salmon with Sole and Shrimp, Sautéed Spinach with olive Oil and Garlic, Pomme de Terre, Parisienne, Breaded Chicken Cutlet with Goat Cheese & Wilted

September 27 (Thursday) 1:30-5:00 p.m. P1,500 SUNDAY DINNER by: Alleen Anastacio *Roman Tomato Soup, Grilled Asparagus w/ Pear of Prosciutto Salad, Ricotta & Spinach Lasagne, Herb Crusted Rack of Lamb w/ Red Wine Gravy and Crepes w/ Banana Nutella

September 28 (Friday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P1,200 PATTIES & TURNOVERS (Demo-Participation) by: Jill Sandique *Indian Samosas, Jamaican Beef Patties, Cuban Empanada, Chicken MushroomTurnover & Stromboli plus bonus recipe.

September 29 (Saturday) 9:00-4:00 p.m. P1,200 ROLLS & MERINGUES by: Jill Sandique *Hazelnut Dacquoise, Meringuette, Strawberry Almond Meringue Torte, Double Chocolate Roulade, Mocha Rumba and Baked Alaska

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THE NEWLYWEDS with their principal sponsors Elenita Gutierrez, Josefina Dy-Hammar, Dr. Claudette Dizon, Ma. Luisa Panlilio, Daisy Sarino, Wilma Sarino, Janet Garcia, Teena Sarino, Corita dela Fuente, Gen. Fortunato Abot, Mike Johnson, Hans Hammar, Dr. Hari Mehta, lawyer Juanito Vitug, Stephen Sarino, Cesar Sarino and Renée Salud

A bride's wish comes true

MATTHEW James Sajban and Ma. Fe Evelyn Rosalia Dy tied the knot on July 28 at The Manila Cathedral. The bride is the only daughter of Francisco Dy Jr. and Fatima Sarino Maniquis Dy. The groom is the only son of Jim and Ruth Sajban of Indiana, USA.

Matt and Evelyn's romance withstood the test of time. They met when Evelyn was still a freshman at Purdue University where they both studied. Matt graduated two years earlier and immediately landed a job at Compaq in Silicon Valley. While Evelyn was finishing her course, they would burn the wires and Matt would visit her on holidays. After her graduation, Evelyn was employed by Marriott Hotel in North Michigan Avenue, Chicago.

When Evelyn's brother got married last year, Matt decided to join her and made his first trip to the Philippines. It was during his two-week stay in the country that he realized he wanted to spend the rest of his life with the woman he loves.

MATT Sajban and Evelyn Dy

But it was only early this year that wedding plans were made. And like any woman in love, the bride wished her wedding day to be romantic, elegant and memorable. So they set their wedding day to coincide with the wedding anniversary of Evelyn's parents.

The invitation was enhanced by a translucent paper designed with lilac hearts and tied with a lilac organza ribbon. Their unity candle was created by Evelyn's mother which had the invitation and the list of the entourage embedded on it. White pearls shaped into hearts and multicolored feather butterflies embellished the candle.

Exquisite

On their wedding day, Evelyn was radiant in her white gown created by Renée Salud. It had a low-cut back with spaghetti strap. The bodice was filled with hundreds of handcrafted white rosettes with vines creeping down and lined with three colors of Swarovski crystals. Adding highlight to the ensemble was the intricately embroidered veil filled with rosebuds and held by a two-band tiara.

As "The Prayer" was sung, Evelyn walked down the aisle in the arms of her father. She looked every inch a princess surrounded by pastel-colored roses and violet orchids which lined the aisles of the Manila Cathedral.

The female sponsors wore exquisite gowns in different shades of lilac, lavender, purple and magenta. Godparents were ILO assistant director general Hans Hammar and ILO director Fe Josefina Hammar, (who flew in from Geneva), WHO director Michael Johnson and his wife Heather, former GSIS president Cesar Sarino and his lovely wife Teena Mendoza Sarino, former QC vice mayor Steve Sarino and his recently elected wife Hon. Wilma Amoranto, Gen. Fortunato Abat, lawyer Juanito Vitug, Elenita Gutierrez, Luisa Panlilio, Janet Garcia, Dr. Claudette Dizon, Corita dela Fuente, Daisy Sarino (who flew in from California), WHO representative Dr. Hari Mehta, Mehmed Salih of WHO-Africa, Roger Chua and designer Renée Salud.

The bridal entourage and secondary sponsors wore individually designed lavender silk chiffon gowns that complemented the bridal gown. Matrons of honor were Anna Dy and Dr. Marinella Abat. Best friend Sharon Osmeña Lim was maid of honor while aunt Maricris Sarino was bridesmaid. Flower girl IA Garcia was sweet in her layered gown and halo made of purple and pink flowers.

Best man Chad Grigsby flew in all the way from Indiana with wife Barbara. Groom's man was Evelyn's brother, Francis, who escorted his mother to the altar.

The secondary sponsors included Fay Moraleda and CJ Sarino, candle; Marika and Mark Garcia, veil; Grace and Jojo Sarino, cord.

Bell ringer C3 Sarino was the first to march down the aisle to signal the start of the ceremony. He was followed by Bible bearer Taro Garcia, coin bearer AG Sarino and ring bearer Jaco Abat.

Classmates of the bride from the International School, Maridess Lim and Janice Troesch, were readers of the scriptures, and VJ Edward Feist was the lector. Other readers were Judy Sarino and Barbara Grigsby.

Lovely sight

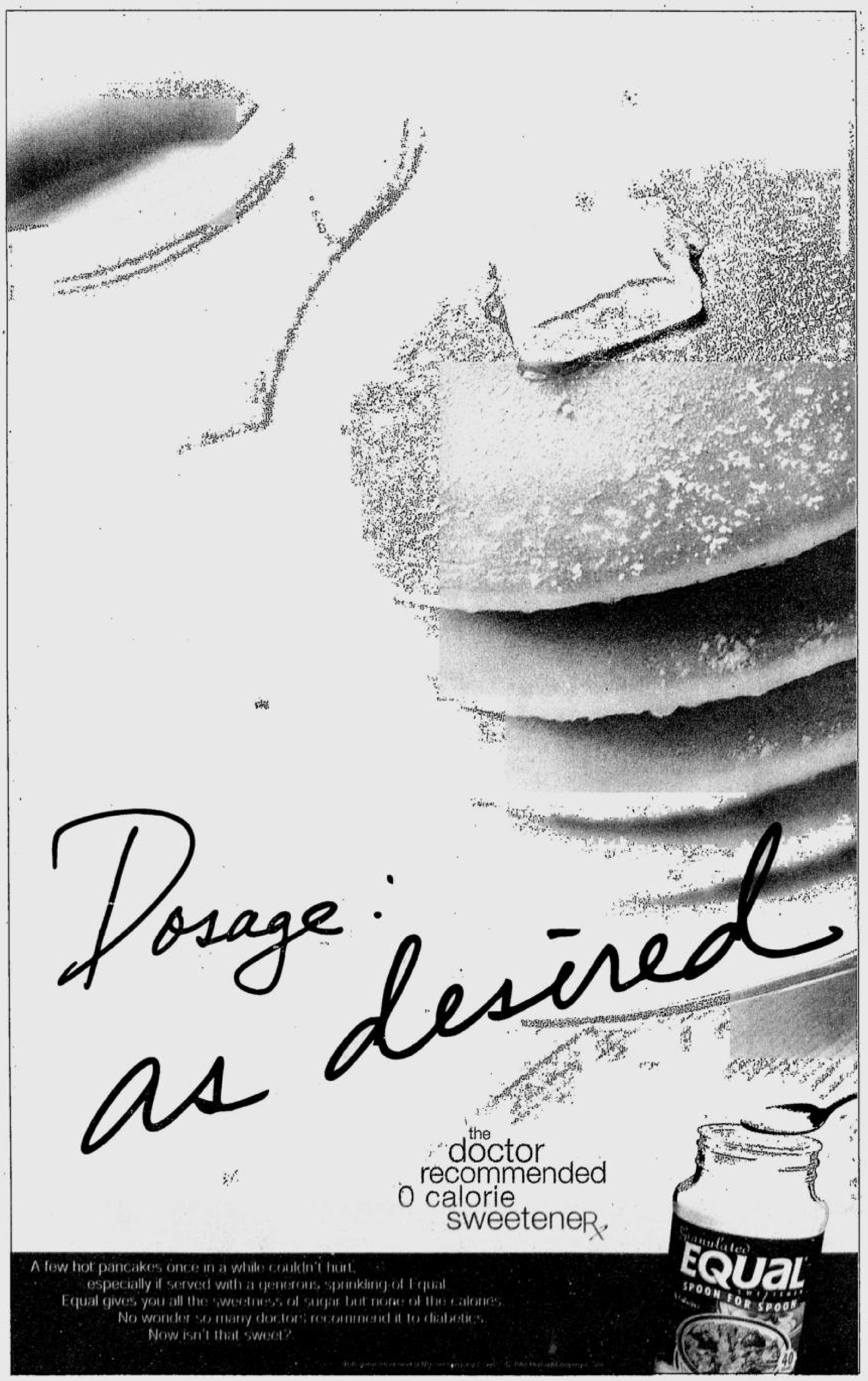
Cocktails and reception immediately followed at the Champagne Room of The Manila Hotel. The flicker of lights from the hundreds of votives scattered on the tables was a sight! Tony Rodriguez created floral centerpieces of lavender and purple tulips and Ecuador roses combined with purple blue hydrangeas and peach roses. Pink and purple grapes were added for prosperity. Each centerpiece was accented with a big lilac candle.

The cake designed by Heny Sison was done in batter yellow. The four layers each had a different design done in white gum paste. The two middle layers had a heart design done in different patterns. Fresh flowers adorned each layer with huge, white gum paste ribbons.

The first dance of the newlyweds was made more romantic with the release of African butterflies by the female entourage. To make the evening more fun, several games were played for singles and married couples. Half a dozen bouquets were thrown by the bride to the single ladies. Josie Mercado caught the lilac-ribboned bouquet. Matt did the traditional garter throw which was caught by 13-year-old Brian Abat to his own surprise. After significant speeches by the couple and their families, Gloria and Her Band played the whole night.

Matt and Evelyn flew to exotic Bangkok for their honeymoon before returning to California.

WITH THEIR parents Francisco Jr. and Fatima Dy and Jim and Ruth Sajban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Sergio Osmeña III, 'filibustero'

Story on page D2

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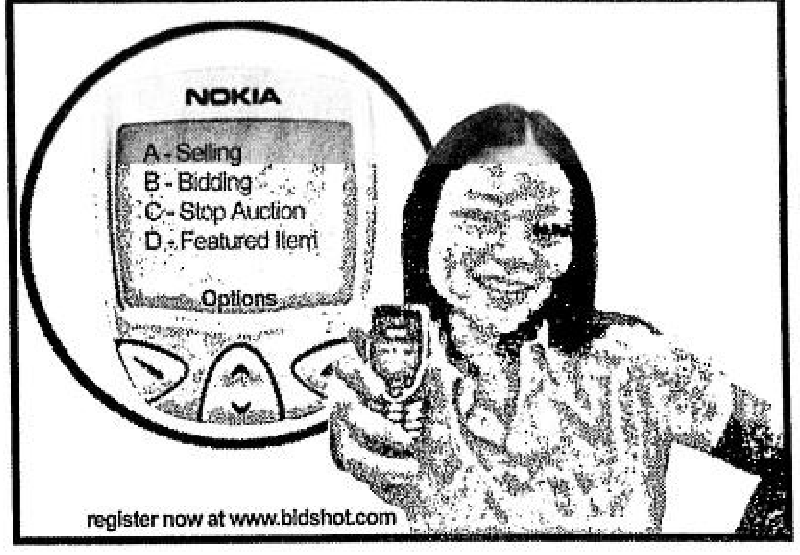
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Sergio Osmeña III, 'filibustero'

PLAYTIME

By the staff

PHOTOS BY VAL HANDUMON

HE made headlines when he filibustered to protest the constitution of certain Senate committees. As a result, he delayed the investigation of the cause celebre, the alleged US bank accounts of Sen. Panfilo Lacson. For that, Osmeña, who belonged to the minority like Lacson, was pilloried, even in this paper's editorial.

Not surprisingly, Osmeña was unflappable throughout the ordeal. "*Akala nila magba*-back down *ako sa* negative publicity, *hindi ako nag*-back down," he said. He denied delaying the inquiry on Lacson; what he really did was protest the tyranny of the majority. The majority had wanted to make the president pro tempore and majority floor leader chairs of committees, in violation of the rules and the tradition in the Senate in which they, together with the minority leader, sit as ex-officio members of all the committees. "Their job is not to advocate a certain type of bill," noted Osmeña, "but to watch all the committees and make sure everything flows smoothly."

When Osmeña invoked the rules, senators from the majority called for a rewriting of the rules. A change of rules can be attained by a simple majority vote of senators present in the session hall. "A quorum is 13 senators if you have 24. Seven can change the rules," Osmeña said. "But to elect a Senate president you need 13 votes. Can you imagine? It's harder to elect a Senate president than it is to change the rules."

Not only did the majority want the rules changed, they also wanted wholesale nomination and election of the chairs. When Majority leader Sen. Loren Legarda proceeded to name the nominees for chairmanships, Osmeña filibustered. When he later offered to let pass the nomination of Sen. Joker Arroyo as chair of the Blue Ribbon Committee just to get the inquiry going, the majority refused.

Obviously, the Senate majority had wanted the nomination and election en masse so that certain problematic nominees could summarily be elected, sidestepping possible conflict-of-interest issue that might be raised against them.

Osmeña said the rules were exactly made to protect the minority from the tyranny of the majority. He explained US legislators do their work governed by rules outlined in two thick volumes—Jefferson's Manual and Rules of the House of Representatives and Floyd M. Riddick's Senate Procedures, Precedents and Practices. Like Moses coming down from Sinai with the tablets, Osmeña landed the two tomes at the table before a hushed Playtime staff. Not only that, he added, Americans also consult a third tome. In contrast, the Philippine Senate only has 38 pages of rules, which can be changed capriciously. The majority can thus invent the rules every day.

A stickler for rules, Osmeña fought Ferdinand Marcos, who tried to change the democratic rules of the game 30 years ago to perpetuate himself in power. For that, he was imprisoned during martial law. He later escaped with his friend, businessman Eugenio Lopez Jr., their incarceration and celebrated escape becoming the basis for the hit 1995 movie "Eskapo."

'I have a job. I either do it well or I quit it. I don't like doing things halfway'

He explained parliamentary work largely operates by tradition and legislators stick by it. In contrast, Filipinos love changing the rules so that they have had four constitutions since 1935 and are planning to have a new one still. "We can never prosper as a country because we keep on changing the rules," he said. "It's not the rule, it's the people! They don't follow the rules! Let's follow the rules."

Why are you in the opposition now?

I'm not in the opposition; I'm in the minority. The opposition is composed of several groups just as the majority is composed of several groups. You have the Lakas in the majority, some people from Aksyon Demokratiko, several independents. The minority is the same. Ed Angara has his old LDP and there are about five or six of them. Loi Estrada is Partido ng Masang Pilipino, Lacson also. Honasan is independent. *Magkakaiba kami.* Nene and I are PDP-Laban.

...In politics, you cannot stop a group from endorsing you. If the Abu Sayyaf endorses me tomorrow, does that mean I'm Abu Sayyaf? No! If you endorse me you're buying my principles; I'm not buying yours. It's up to you. *Basta kung magkakaroon tayo ng* tactical working relationship, I'd like to tell you right now. This has nothing to do with the Erap problems. I'm not going to change my stand on that.

Okay *lang*. I've been with the minority twice and I know the role the majority plays, which is to sponsor the bills, conduct the hearings, push the bills, and the minority watches. I've done that twice so I'm comfortable with either role. In a democracy you have to have that. You cannot have everybody on one side; *wala nang magbabantay*. But, of course, I get comments, people upset with me.

You are comfortable with minority legislative work but are you comfortable with your co-members, especially the old senators who were your foes during the impeachment of Estrada?

Unfortunately, you just have to make things work. I've been in the Senate for six years. *Minsan magbabakbakan talaga kami*. But when it's over you just have to keep on going and maintain a civil or cordial relationship with everybody because there's only 24 of you. You can't hold grudges for too long. As a matter of fact, funny enough, Gloria took her oath at 12:30 noon Saturday, by 3 o'clock we had a caucus of all the senators already to determine how to officially close the impeachment trial. (Chuckles)

And there was the matter of the letter *pa, di ba*?

Correct. And I had resigned. *Sabi ko, "Huwag kayong magalit sa akin*, but I don't want to be part of this *zarzuela* anymore. Keep me out of it already."

You speak good Filipino without any accent.

Conversational. *Bulol ako diyan sa* Filipino, *eh. Hindi ka halatang* **Cebuano.**

Wala akong Cebuano accent.

But can you speak Cebuano?

Yes. But I speak Tagalog best, then Ilonggo, then Cebuano.

Why is that?

My mother is Ilonggo and at home, my parents used to converse in Ilonggo. I picked it up. I went to school in Manila so I picked up Tagalog. You can only pick up Cebuano if, for example, you live there... *Dito ako lumaki sa* Manila. I went to La Salle then Ateneo, all my classmates spoke Tagalog.

You went from La Salle to Ateneo...?

Yes. I also went to St. Clements, after that Beaumont College, Harvard, Georgetown, UP Los Baños, UP Manila, San Carlos-Cebu.

***Nag*-San Carlos-Cebu *ka naman pala*. When you hear the name Osmeña *kasi*, automatically you think of Cebu.**

Correct. The name's been associated with Cebu. It is not a common name. I don't even know where the name came from. Are we Turkish? Osman? Where did the name Osmeña come from? There's no Spanish name that's Osmeña either. It's always given me some amount of discomfort not being able to trace the roots of that name.

What's going to happen in the Sena[illegible] now?

We elected 32 chairmen out of 36 [illegible]mittees. There are four more because no on[illegible] wants to chair. (Chuckles) We can't force people [illegible]hair. Economic Affairs, Agrarian Reform, Public Information and Mass Media and Motion Pictures, and Government Corporations and Public Enterprises. But they will find people for these.

Why won't anybody want to chair Public Information and Mass Media?

For the six years that I've been with the Senate, I used to ask why we have so many committees. It's to make sure everybody is happy. You know that there are 100 US senators and only 19 standing committees. There are 435 US congressmen and only 19 standing committees. They get absolutely aghast when I tell them we have 36 standing committees.

***Meron pang* subcommittees.**

There are a lot of subcommittees... (Shakes head) We have so many *retaso* committees there that really don't mean much. The only bill I remember that was considered before the Public Information and Mass Media was the MTRCB. The bill was being pushed by Armida Siguion Reyna, which became controversial because she wanted to take away censorship and was just for classification. The nuns were there every day lobbying against the bill. (Chuckles) That's the only bill. Why would anybody want to chair that committee? (Laughter) Another reason for not wanting to chair a committee: there are lots of local bills which you feel maybe you don't want to devote your time to or will just take up the time of the Senate when there are more important bills to be considered. But there will be pressures from congressmen because these are their pet bills. They'll be forcing you to conduct hearings and to pass the bill. I don't want to put myself in that position. First, it takes up a lot of time. Second, sometimes the bills are not worth passing. I don't want to hurt feelings so I'd rather not chair a committee.

***Di ba dati* Economic Affairs Committee?**

Economic Affairs Committee, despite its high-sounding name, is a nothing committee. The only bills there are the bills that come from the House making this city or that province a free port, economic zone. That's why the majority passed it on to the minority. (Laughs)

Why aren't you chairing a committee?

I wanted to be a generalist. When you chair a committee, you're going to be conducting hearings on your subject, I like to do the work. I like to research, I like to conduct hearings, I like to talk to the experts and ask what will happen if we pass this bill or provision, how this will affect certain situations, etc. That takes my time and my staff's time. On the other hand, in being a generalist, I like to watch. Although I did so in the past, I'll have more time now. In the coming year, I'll be watching closely the income tax reform. That's going to be critical. I have a funny feeling their proposal won't work. I've got to go through and rehash all of the findings. For example, Ramos had a task force on tax reform, which resulted in the Tax Reform Act of 1997... Then I want to shepherd also the anti-money laundering bill; that's my bill. I want to shepherd the Plant Variety Protection Act. I would have passed that as chair of the Agriculture Committee, but for the impeachment trial. That is the bill that will finally protect our agricultural scientists, plant breeders, the intellectual property rights bill for agriculture. I want to shepherd the voting rights for OFWs. I still haven't found a way to operationalize it in such a way that the cheating is minimized. Imagine four million ballots floating out there? One of my pet bills also is the amendment to the comprehensive agrarian reform law, which will now allow the farmer to take the land he has and mortgage it to the Land Bank or to any bank so he will have some money instead of going to the 5-6er and paying through the nose. Because the law, funnily enough, says you cannot sell, mortgage, lease, transfer use of your track of land for 10 years. He's got value in his land yet he cannot use that to access financing.

Farming is risky *kasi, eh.*

Farming is a risk. The framers of the agrarian reform law forgot one of the most basic rules in economics, which you will find in chapter one of any textbook... They felt that if they give the land to the farmer, with his land and the labor, that's enough to make things work. They forgot this guy doesn't have

SERGIO/ p.D5

Lipton Ice Tea

RESTO-ROUNDS

Foodparks by Raintree: Relaxed dining in a corporate setting

When it comes to going out on a "gimmick," eating will most likely be part of the agenda. Whether your restaurant of choice is in Makati, Libis, Malate or Ortigas, your dining experience will most likely boil down to one common denominator: EXPENSIVE.

Luckily, Tom and Annabel Wisniewski – an American-Filipina tandem – have totally revolutionized the eating experience for those looking for inexpensive, good food. In 1996, they established Foodparks by Raintree, currently the only specialty food court operator in the Philippines. "A Raintree food court is incomparable to any in existence, hence, it is but appropriate to give it a name of its own: food parks," marketing director Peachy Almario said.

Only by Raintree

The "genius" of a Raintree food park lies in addressing the market demands of food variety, affordability, comfort and speedy service. So far, all three Raintree food courts – Foodpark at the Enterprise (Ayala Avenue corner Paseo de Roxas, Makati), Marketplace at Times Plaza (U.N. corner Taft Avenues) and Food Odyssey at the LKG Tower (Ayala Avenue, Makati) – are living up to its owners' and the public's expectations.

All Raintree food plazas also offer free entertainment to its customers, with different themes tailor-made for each of the three venues. At the FoodPark, regulars can look forward to acoustic band performances every Thursday and Friday. Those who frequent the Food Odyssey can enjoy movies on Thursdays and bands on Fridays. Marketplace customers, meanwhile, can enjoy live music every other Friday. Some of the top pop groups who have performed at Raintree food courts include Color It Red, The Groove and Parliament Syndicate.

Photo shows [illegible] Lola's Kitchen operations manager Martin Wisniewski, Raintree director of operations Gianella Rodriguez and project director Rosanna Cranbourne

Sip and slurp authority

Apart from good food, one other thing that makes these food courts different from the others is the New York Café, a centralized beverage bar that serves any concoction to quench one's thirst. From a cup of freshly brewed coffee or ice-cold beer to frozen fruit slush or a simple can of soda, the New York Café serves them all.

The New York Café also owes part of its success to Lipton Ice Tea, its exclusive brand of powdered drink by Unilever Bestfoods. The perfect beverage to complement the sumptuous entrées at any Raintree food park, Lipton is for those who enjoy life – individuals who are "innovative," "extrovert," "sociable" yet "totally responsible." Truly, there is no other drink that understands the youth better than Lipton Ice Tea. At the moment, all New York Cafés serve only the Classic Lemon variant of Lipton Ice Tea.

So the next time you want good, clean food, remember that you don't have to look far nor spend a lot at expensive restaurants to make dining out worth your while. Just drop by the nearest Raintree food park for a total gustatory experience that will make you want to come back for more.

FOODparks by RAINTREE

Lipton
Ice Tea
lemon

The "Resto-Rounds" series is being brought to you by Lipton Ice Tea – the perfect partner for any dining experience.

Pop Quiz

How many apples does he have left?

☐ 4 apples
☐ 6 apples
■ 14 apples
☐ none of the above

4. Matthew wants to buy a high quality inkjet printer with the following features:
- Dual Ink Cartridge (CMY+K)
  - *Producing true black & vivid colors*
- Advanced Variable-Sized Droplet Technology
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  - *No need for additional "Photo" cartridge required*
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  - *No hidden cost*

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THE POWER TO CREATE

How to detect fake Fundador brandy

THE CONSUMER

Marietta Velasco Giron

OVERCONFIDENT counterfeiters of Fundador brandy got too careless that they made errors on product labels and packaging, making it easier now for consumers to detect fake products.

Anyone with a sharp eye, for example, can spot typographical errors on labels such as the wrong spelling of *Passig*, which should be *Pasig*. Or, the words "*center*" and "*avenue*" are not capitalized like the words on original labels.

Other tell-tale signs are obsolete Spanish seals, dubious-looking BIR seals, faulty reproductions of company trademark, fake stickers of duty-free emporiums in Singapore and Japan and glued-on caps. Fake caps may also show signs of wear and tear while others are painted over with nail polish.

The real giveaway, according to officials of Allied Domecq Philippines, the sole importer and distributor of Fundador, is when the price of a one-liter bottle is offered anywhere from P150-P250. Legitimate liquor stores sell it at P400. To bait prospective buyers, dealers of fake brandy say their merchandise is cheaper because it is tax-free and bought from *balikbayans*, duty-free shops, customs auctions and smugglers.

The officials disclosed that local counterfeiters were faking their product since 1970. When it got worst in 1997, an anti-counterfeit drive was launched with the help of government law enforcers. The drive confiscated close to a million caps, cartons, empty bottles, filled bottles, labels, BIR/España seals, duty-free stickers and plastic rings.

Counterfeiting has been crippled, thanks to over 100 raids on manufacturers, outlets and customs container interceptions. The officials warned, however, that the few surviving counterfeit operations are like ticking bombs. Somebody might drink the fake product and land in the hospital. Fake brandy, the official added, is a combination of cheap brandy and rum and the containers are recycled bottles supplied by junk shops.

The officials urged consumers to report fake products. For further information, write to The President, Allied Domecq Philippines, 18/F Octagon Centre, San Miquel Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City. They can also call 637-0530 or 0919-6255828.

Don't entertain telehoaxes

BE forewarned. Unless you bought a raffle or lottery ticket, don't entertain telephone calls that announce you have won.

A reader wrote: "Somebody called us at home and announced that we won a Honda Civic car worth P200,000. We were surprised for we did not join any raffle contest. The caller explained that our name was randomly picked from a list of professionals. She gave her cellular phone number, but we did not call because we had a feeling it was a hoax.

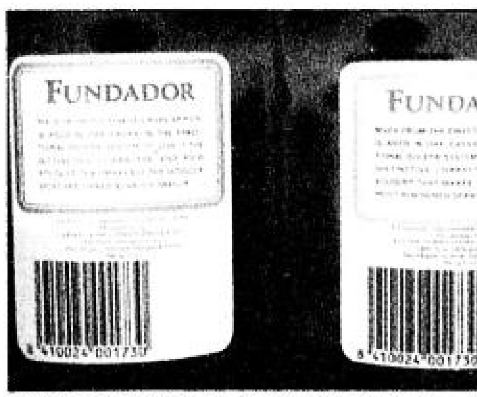
After a few months, we received another phone call from a man who said we won a Toyota Revo during the Independence Day raffle draw. He said it was a government raffle for taxpayers. The caller left his cellular phone number.

If I get a similar call again, what should I do?"

We advise the letter writer to call DTI consumer net for assistance. The number is 890-4932

Skyway refund

PDI reader S. Yu (hrh_sharon@hotmail. com) wrote: "My family, in-laws and guests from China took the Skyway on our way to Tagaytay. My husband paid the P55 toll fee for our car and another P55 for my in-laws' car right behind us. However, when we were in Tagaytay, we found out that my father-in-law paid P55, and the toll booth attendant accepted it. It is embarrassing to our foreign guests. Did the toll attendant forget?"



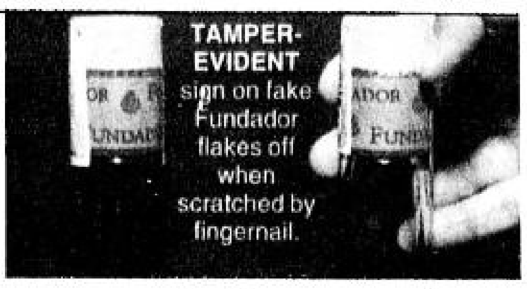
COUNTERFEIT brandy (right) has print errors. Words "center" and "avenue" are not capitalized as they are on genuine label (left).

Buying woe

A DISAPPOINTED shopper from Parañaque wrote: "My son chose a pair of Levi's cargo pants with P849.50 tag price. However, when I brought it to the pay counter, the cashier inspected the price tag but punched P1,699.50 on her cash register. When I protested, I was told that they forgot to remove the price tag that was supposed to be for the sales promo three weeks ago. I complained and asked for the store manager. But I was told that he was not around. Realizing the futility of the situation and not wanting to disappoint my son who took a long time choosing the pair of pants, I decided to pay.

"How can the sales staff of such a big store as Levi's make such a mistake at the expense of its customer? I hope that DTI Secretary Mar Roxas learn about our experience and warn the store personnel."

E-mail the author at mariettagiron @hotmail.com.



TAMPER-EVIDENT sign on fake Fundador flakes off when scratched by fingernail.

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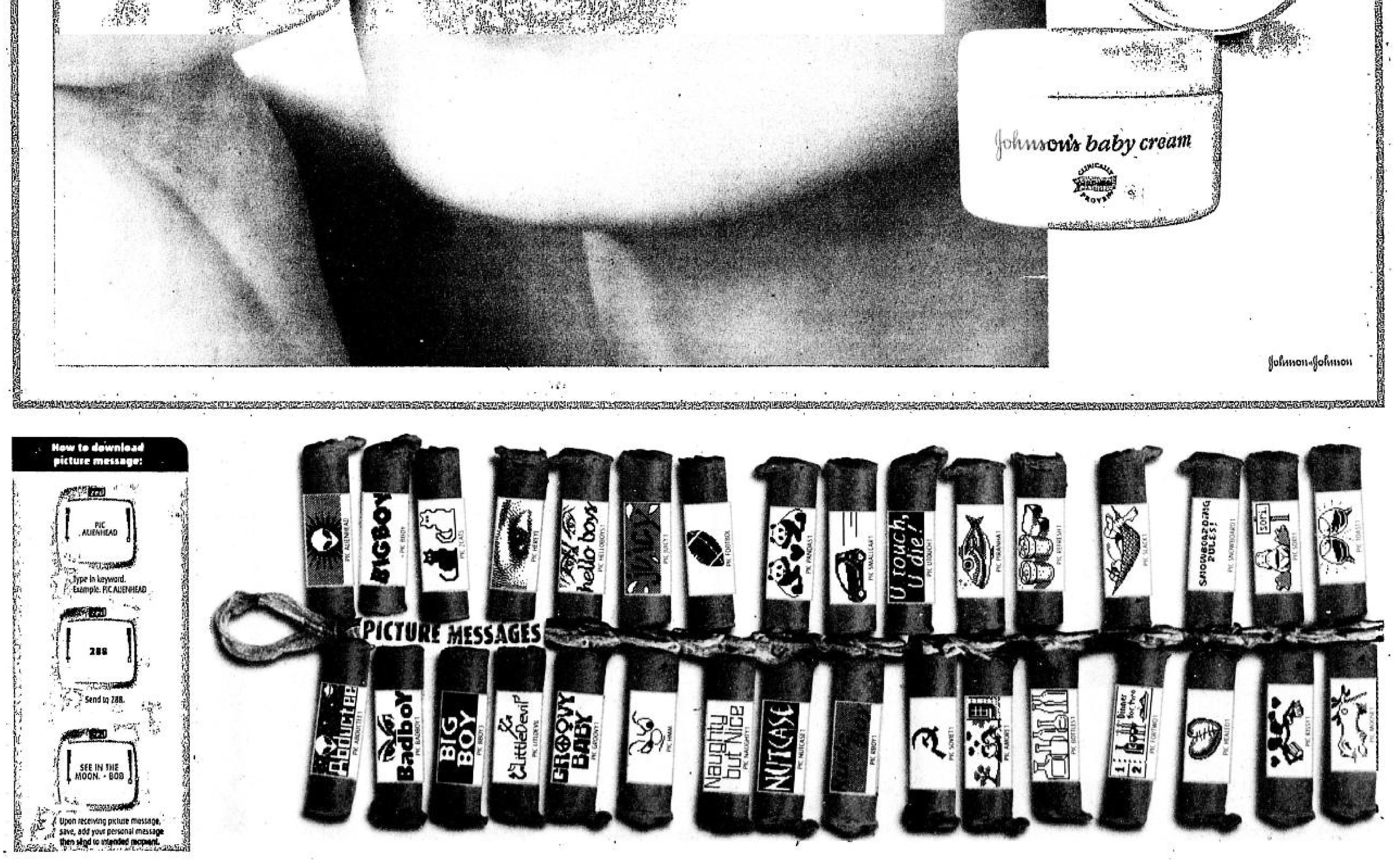

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PR STYLE. Susan Joven and Criselda Lontok

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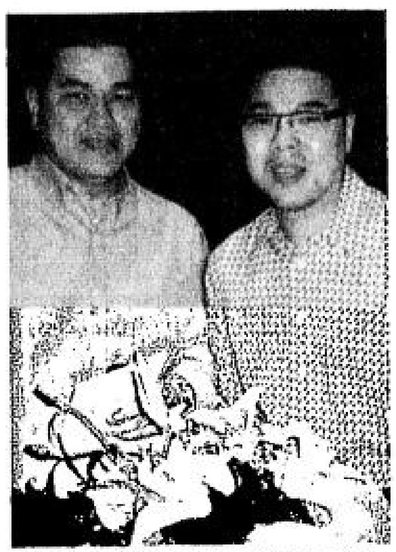
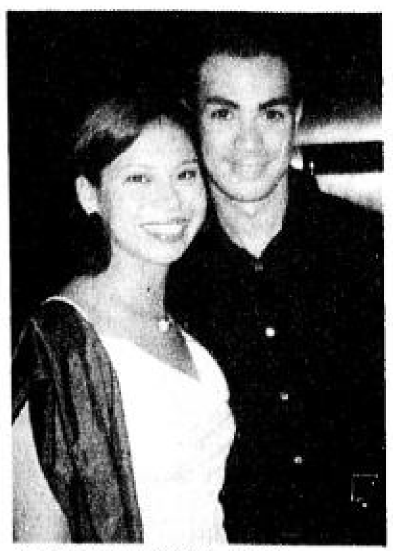

RETAIL KING. Ben Chan with Miguel Pastor

SOON TO WED. Steve Burns and Jenny Diaz


SILKY SMOOTH. Katrina Goulbourn and Chris Feist

Traveling with Ms Marge

The wise traveler walks alone,
For the path to the top of the mountain is narrow.
There is room only for two,
And the other is truth.
—excerpt from "God: The Companion"

TEXT AND PHOTOS BY TIM YAP

LIFESTYLE fashion and home sub-editor Marge Enriquez has always been a paradox to many. While everybody knows her convictions regarding life and living, sex and the soul, through her writings, few are able to experience her presence physically. She is not your regular fashion editor, seen at all style gatherings, engaging in countless mwah-a-thons.

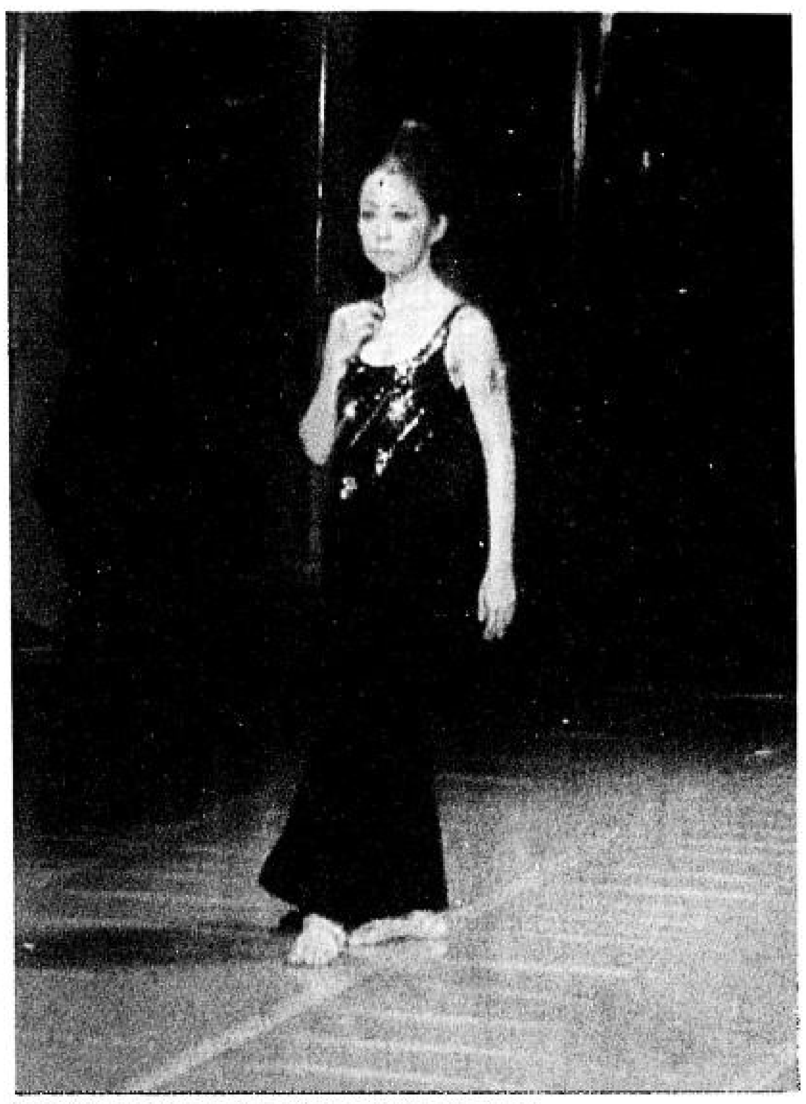
Elusive and soft-spoken (except when she's mad), she would come to events without any fanfare and leave in a Vreeland-esque way. She is a staunch advocate of both old and new, preferring to be a bridge between the two than take sides.

In the office, she just keeps to her computer, writing countless articles on style, health and the arts—things closest to her heart.

Funny how things you are passionate about seem to be drawn toward you. It must be that warmth only a true artist can exude. A few weeks back, Marge's friends witnessed the synthesis of these diverse media via Marge's annual public appearance, a dance show fusing art, fashion and media in one soulful package. A "multimedia dance event," to be more apt, titled "The Traveler."

CINDERELLA OUT OF THE BALL. Maritoni Rufino-Tordesillas at the RCBC lobby

PRICELESS. Gerry K at the event


MARGE Enriquez, in solitude, but not alone

The Journey

The event was A-list naturally. Artsy, that is. The lighting within the halls of the RCBC Plaza dimmed as the show was about to start. A sizable yet very exclusive crowd had already formed. Editors, PR practitioners, industry pillars and icons composed the night's guest list.

And then she appeared. At first via video, doubling and tripling images, distorted Marges all flying on the screen. Then, a vision in black, she glided gracefully across the long lobby, as if floating. Marge walked with the grace of a danseuse and the confidence of a ramp model doing the opening number for a designer's gala show.

LAVENDER SOUL. Tessa Prieto Valdes and Rosanne Cruz

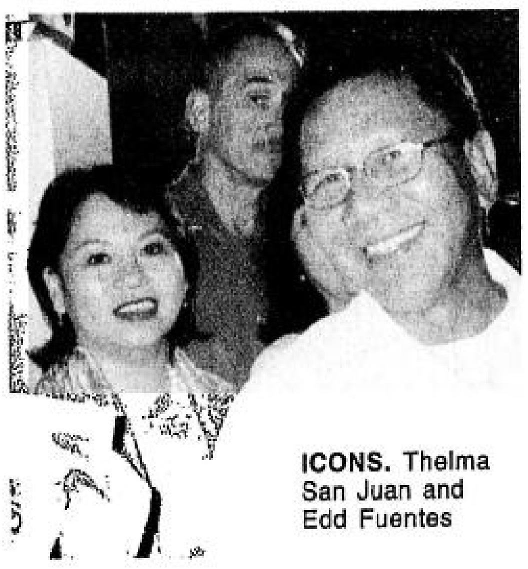
Instead of the usual dancers waving giant pieces of cloth, Marge's version had local woven visuals, looking like elongated baskets on acid. Her voice was soothing as it mused on life's journey, making one take a step back from the mundane existence of life.

Watching Marge perform, ignoring the distraction of people coming late or whispering their comments to each other, was actually meditative. It gave you a buzz, conveyed a message. After a while, you felt wholesomely stoned, as if you had traveled with Ms Marge.

A couple of video images, dances and poems later, she brought the audience to their final destination. And they expressed their appreciation with deafening applause.

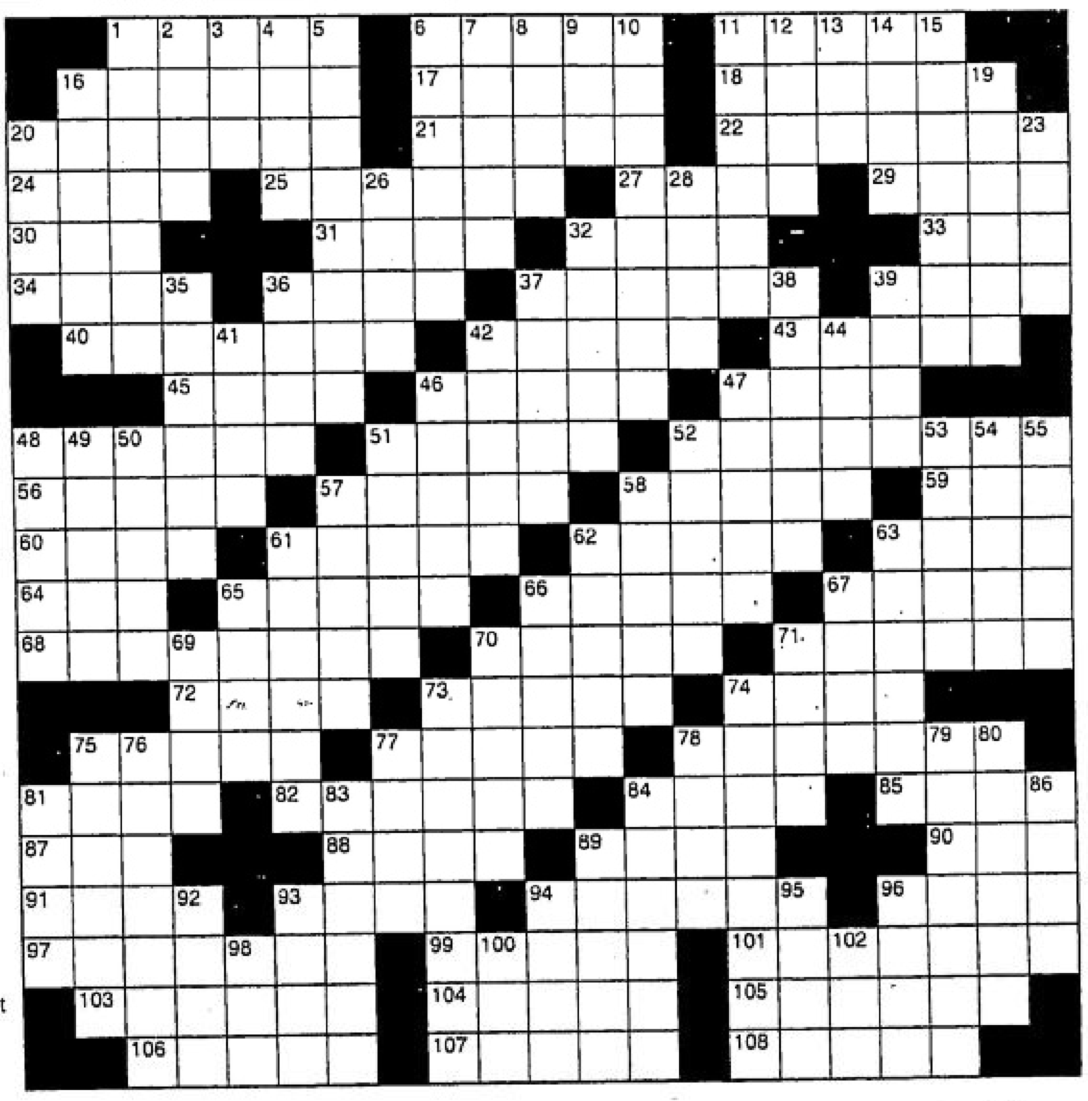
Ms Marge smiled peacefully.

INDUSTRY PILLARS. Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and Virgie Ramos


ICONS. Thelma San Juan and Edd Fuentes

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

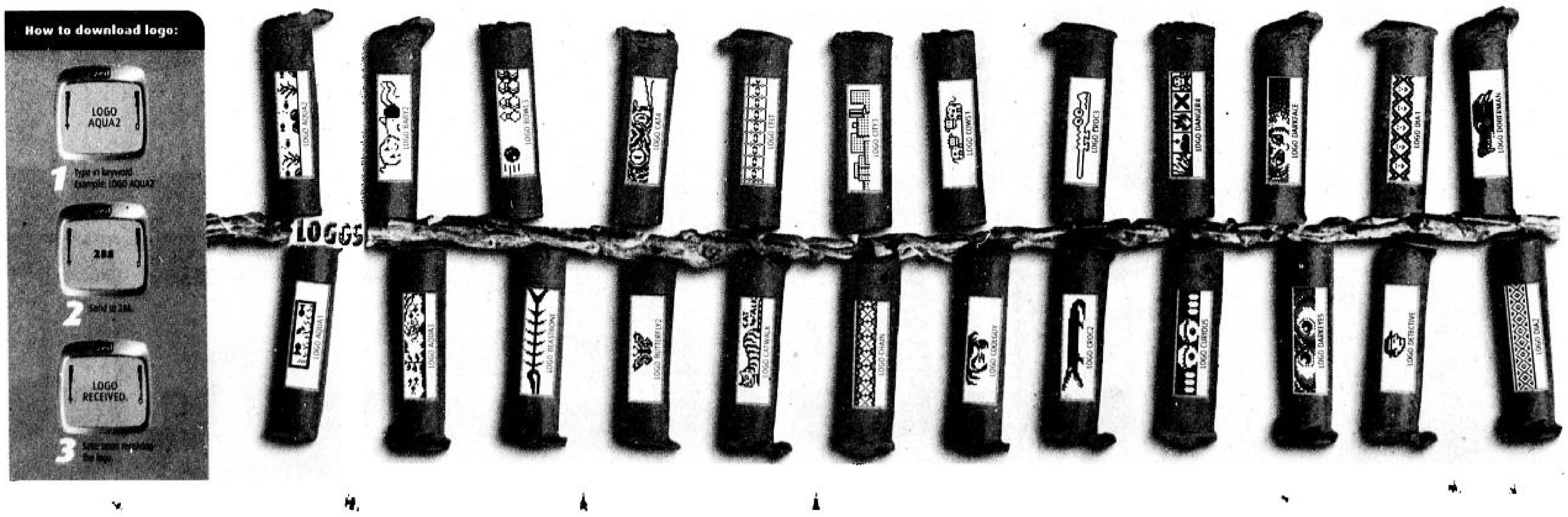
RE-SOLUTIONS



ACROSS
1 Baseball's Roger
6 Mutiny
11 Tall story?
16 Exile
17 Roman magistrate
18 It has a bit part
20 Be a Tour-de-France veteran?
21 Sign of summer
22 Stay in the same apartment?
24 Neighbor of Corsica
25 Agenda item
27 Mont. neighbor
29 Self starter?
30 Stout relative
31 — Linda, CA
32 Settled a debt
33 Honshu honorific
34 Heaps
36 Ostentation
37 "The Peanut Man"
39 "Shall we?"
40 Costain's "The Silver —"
42 Mob
43 Work on a crossword?
45 Shipbuilding wood
46 Government game
47 E-junk?
48 Use more Pledge?
51 Like Harry?
52 '73 Three Dog Night hit
56 Motionless
57 Rigg or Ross
58 "West Side Story" song
59 China's — Biao
60 Didi of "Benson"
61 Acts like a stallion
62 '58 Peggy Lee hit
63 Predicament
64 Samuel's teacher
65 Glum drops?
66 Underneath
67 Dietary need
68 In no particular order
70 More ironic
71 Fix up the house?
72 Skip
73 It makes women blush
74 — noire
75 Breakers
77 Aromatic spice
78 Royal residences
81 Bog
82 Brunei bigwig
84 A Calhoun
85 Lauder powder
87 Yoko —
88 87 Across' son
89 Gnat or brat
90 "Holy cow!"
91 Responsibility
93 Gregory Peck role
94 Biblical site
96 Take note of
97 Stick it back in the closet?
99 Video game name
101 Offer second helpings?
103 Liturgical participant
104 Lost cause
105 Swimmer Gertrude
106 Don one's duds
107 Originate
108 Like Don Meredith

DOWN
1 Shakespeare's shortest play
2 Novelist Seton
3 Rocker Ocasek
4 Land in the sea
5 Elementary sleuth
6 Flirt with another guy?
7 Minnesota city
8 Type of feeder
9 Actress Taina
10 First name in art
11 Wear down
12 Travel with Spock?
13 Up to, for short
14 Mental image
15 Some are subordinate
16 Writer Hilaire
19 Potentate's property
20 Genuine
23 Billions of years
26 New York city
28 Seedy spot
32 Celebrate spring break
35 Ringed orbiter
36 Chanteuse Edith
37 Terra —
38 Get a couple back together?
39 It becomes ewe?
41 Departed
42 Pieces of brass
44 "— Lama Ding Dong" ('61 tune)
46 Fishermen, frequently
47 Minute mammal
48 Kitchen gadget
49 "— Gay"
50 Porto-Novo's country
51 Dear book?
52 Relish
53 Slip cover?
54 Like some paper
55 Gide or Agassi
57 Worked in Vegas
58 Donnybrook
61 Strike out?
62 Put on
63 Halve
65 "Break It — Gently" ('62 hit)
66 Bean Town skater
67 Chalky cheese
69 Symbol of peace
70 TV's "Wonder —"
71 Depend (on)
73 Swedish turnip
74 Smetana's "The — Bride"
75 First to finish
76 Stirred up
77 Lewis of "Ellen"
78 Ritzy
79 How beavers act?
80 Jacket part
81 "Wuthering Heights" setting
83 Poe family
84 Change a flat?
86 Turn over
89 Shimon of Israel
92 Night light?
93 Ornery Olympian
94 Iran's Abolhassan — -Sadr
95 Helen of Troy's mom
96 Act like a puli
98 Pindaric poem
100 Rocky hill
102 Part of Cong.

ANSWER ON PAGE D7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Sergio . . .

(From page D2)

financing or access to technology. And he doesn't have the management skills to do it. At least without that mortgage ban, he'll now have access to financing ...Believe me I'll be misunderstood in this bill. The activists will go to the streets and say, "Osmeña is going to force the farmers to lose their farms." But I've never been scared of those things. I do what I think is right, then *bahala na*.

I thought one component of land reform was to give loans?

That is all talk. The law is there but the past administration hardly put money there. They put P1 billion. My gosh! What is P1 billion? Forty percent of the population depends directly on agriculture and fisheries for a living. Another 20 percent depends on agri and fisheries indirectly for a living. These are the guys who drive the truck and pick up the fish in the northern towns and bring it to Cebu City... That's 60 percent. You've got roughly 12 million families in this country. If 60 percent are agri-dependent, that's 7,200,000 families. You put P1 billion, they're not gonna feel it.

What was the experience of the state in giving loans to the farmers? Were they able to pay?

Mostly bad because of the inadequate administrative safeguards. In the beginning, in Tita Cory's time, Land Bank kept on putting billions into agriculture credit cooperatives. Land Bank lost P10 billion. That was lost because after they gave it out, the cooperatives didn't collect from their members. But if you're able to monitor it closely, say, the rural banking system, it would be much better.

And even if you give the farmers loan, if you don't give these farmers entrepreneurial skills also, *wala rin*.

At saka walang collateral. That's why I want the farmer to know his land is at stake. I would say that 80 percent of our small farmers lose money except that they can put the food under their house. If they really penciled out, including their own labor, they lose money. But they don't input the cost of their labor. In surveys, the average farm household budget in this country only derives 20 percent of its budget from proceeds from their farm; 80 percent comes from off-farm income.

What do you say about the agricultural policies of Gloria?

The other agricultural policies of Gloria were crafted by me. She's doing what I've been telling Erap to do. She's now finally funding the infrastructure for agriculture. *Pero kulang na*. I mean we're so delayed, it's ridiculous.

Have you talked to her lately?

(Shakes head)

But you were with her in the Senate before.

We hardly talked.

Why? *Suplada ba siya?*

(Grins) Wrong chemistry. (Laughter)

Is there such a thing as a stalemate in the Senate?

You should see lawyers argue that black is white on the Senate floor and I'm telling you, I just shake my head. What is difficult also when you're in a certain forum, some people have technical superiority. Flavier will have technical superiority in health. Nobody can debate Flavier in health there. He'll run circles around you. Lawyers will have technical superiority in law, taxation, etc., *kasi alam nila*. Some would have technical superiority in economics, finance, that the other guys don't know. What you try to do is, with goodwill, understand what they're saying... rather than win the debating point because you don't come up with a good law simply on debating points. You might win the debate but you might be wrong. You won the debate because I couldn't answer your questions about other laws you are referring to that were passed in 1930 or 1940, give up *na lang ako*. You get your way, but I could be right.

What I'm trying to do in the Senate is, "Guys, we're only here for a short moment. See, I've already finished six years. Time flew by so fast. But what we write here will stay maybe for a 100 years." In 1996 or 1997 I was trying to amend a law that was passed in 1921, 1934. *Panahon pa ng lolo ko ito* when he was in the Senate. If you run over somebody now, do you know how much is the penalty under the law? P3,000. That's the 1921 law and they still will not pass the amendment. That's why some public transportation in the province, when they run over somebody, *babalikan pa, papatayin*. Because if he's alive, you pay for hospitalization, they'll sue you, etc. You spend more. But when he's dead the law says [pay] P3,000. I've had that amendment pending for a long time. I have to check

SERGIO/ p.D6

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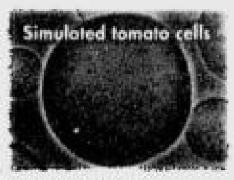

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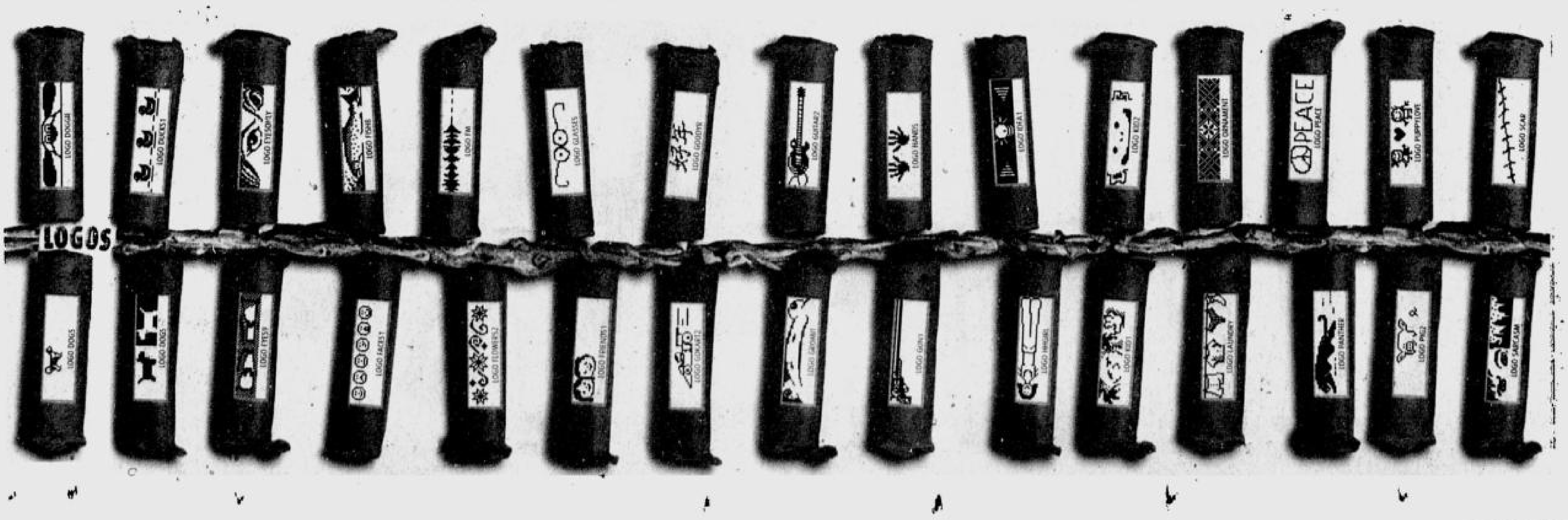


Sergio Osmeña III, 'filibustero'

(From page D5)

again because I filed 235 bills.

Why was it not passed?

Because it's not important. I mean, it goes to the committee under the revisions of codes and laws and they've got so many more important bills there.

Generally, in your life, have you always followed tradition?

Perhaps in my family we have a longer history of tradition because of my *lolo*, etc. But I went to school in England, *eh*. My last two years in high school were in England and that's where I learned tradition. There were really some ridiculous things I had to do in school. *Talagang* it didn't make sense. *Pag* underclass man *ka, paparada ka.* Don't look left or right, etc., to get to the library. *Mahabang* corridor *'yan. Para akong gago magmamartsa ako diyan.* If you're upperclass *wala na*. What's the reason for all this? It's tradition; you just have to follow it. They've been doing it for a hundred years in the school and they'll be doing it for another hundred years. The British people, their courts, their customs, their habits—traditional. And it has served them well. They're not the type of people *na maghahanap ng lusot kaagad. Bibigyan kita ng* law, *bukas pag-aaralan kaagad kung saan ang lusot dito.* We always try to break the law and put one over everybody. That's not a good cultural trait.

Have you never rebelled against tradition even as a youth?

I was a rebel that's why they kept kicking me out of school. (Laughter) I'm really a rebel. That's why I spent five years in the slammer. Marcos said, "I'll release you. Just say sorry." "I won't say sorry. Bring me to court." After the second year I went on a hunger strike with Geny Lopez for 10 days. "I'm not gonna say sorry to this son of a b—h!" So we escaped.

That's politics. How about in your personal life? Your family...

I was the rebel in my family.

What about now?

I still have that streak of rebellion. You saw it.

How about as a family man?

I love family life. I'm very lucky because other people will have to go to the bar and drink with their friends before they go home. My happiness is being with my wife and my kids.

Baka maniwala kami nyan.

It's true, you won't see me out. Some of my friends say I'm anti-social. I'm not anti-social. You like going out because you like making chitchat, drinking with other people. Sure, I enjoy that. But I enjoy being with my kids more.

How many kids do you have?

I have six. Two from a previous marriage—they make life in San Francisco and New York, 32 and 34 years old—and four from my present marriage. They're 13, 10, 7½ and 2½ years old. This youngest one stays up until midnight so she's waiting for me. (Chuckles) The older ones have to go to school so they sleep early.

You have grandchildren from your older children?

No, they're not married.

How do you manage to squeeze in family time?

Hardly. Usually on weekends I go out, especially when I was the chair of the committee on agriculture and food so I used to go to the countryside. Like this weekend, I'm going to Tacloban, Surigao and Butuan. But I have a little plane, a single-engine, which I keep in Cebu. Then it's a short hop.

What does your wife have to say about your schedule?

She doesn't like it, but hey, I have a job. I either do it well or I quit it. I don't like doing things halfway. I'm the only senator who hasn't traveled at the Senate's expense.

But you go on trips with your family?

I don't bring the kids abroad. But I go once every two years to San Francisco, but it's usually study-related... I get bored when I sit on a plane. For the first time in my life I went as a tourist because I've been promising my wife for 17 years. (Chuckles) We went to Italy. We went to see the Vatican, "The Last Supper"... I spent 2½ weeks there. *Nagpunta kami ng* Milan, Venice, Florence and Rome. That's simply the most beautiful country in the world. Even if you stayed there for your lifetime you wouldn't see all the treasures they have. They have more treasures there in 1 sq m than we have in this country. *Grabe talaga! Sabi ko*, God was so unfair. (Chuckles) He gave all the talents to the Italians. The cathedral in Milan, my God, it's exquisite! There are 3,600 carvings all covering the cathedral inside. And perfect carvings, *ha*. These are not just Igorot-style carvings. *Talagang ang ganda!* In bronze, marble, fantastic!

How did you meet your wife?

That's a very funny and nice story. Her father was a good friend of mine. We lived across the street. Vice President Lopez lived across the street from us for 20 years. I was close to the boys and my sister also was close to the girls. Chona Mejia married Albertito in 1959. I was very close to them. In 1961 on my way to enroll at Harvard, I dropped by Albertito's house and he had a baby in the crib who was 1 year old. That was Bettina. I was 17. So I went to Harvard. We were very close. They were always playing in our house but I never saw her and she never saw me. In 1984, she was 24, we were introduced in San Francisco. That's how we met.

Was 'Eskapo' realistic?

There were three errors in the movie. First, Geny and I never quarreled in jail... Two, they never found out we escaped until we were in Los Angeles... Third, I look better than Richard Gomez (Laughter)

***Pinalaki 'mo pala.* (Laughter)**

Yeah. I said, "It's a good thing I didn't meet you when you used to come to the house and play or else you'd be calling me *tito*." And that would have been the end of it, you know. (Laughs) When you call somebody *tito*, there's no more romantic interest. She calls Minnie, Tita Minnie, up to now. (Laughter)

Is Minnie your sister?

Yes.

Are you close?

(Grins)

Is it true she's running for political office?

I don't know, you'll have to ask her. (Laughter)

Why aren't you close?

She lives in the US, *eh*. But she's back. She's in Cebu.

Who's older?

Guess.

She.

(Grins) She's gonna get very upset. (Laughter)

If they make the impeachment into a movie, who will play you?

George C. Scott. (Laughter)

He's so old!

When he was young... I really don't know. The first movie I saw him in he played a prosecutor. It was a black-and-white movie.

That was "To Kill a Mockingbird."

Was it? *Ang galing niya dun.*

Was "Eskapo" realistic?

The real story is better than what came out in the movie. The movie couldn't capture the details. I just told a group of businessmen in Cebu whom I had dinner with last Saturday. Factually, there were only three errors in the movie. First, Geny and I never quarreled in jail. Chito Roño said he had to use license because the *eksena* is very boring. (Shrugs) Two, they never found out we escaped until we were in Los Angeles and we called the State Department for political asylum. The State Department called Secretary of State (Cyrus) Vance in New York attending the opening of the UN and Vance told Imelda Marcos and Johnny Enrile who was there at the time. Then they called Marcos in Manila, "How come Serge and Geny are already in L.A.?" That's when they found out. Again, that was a boring part of the movie so they made it look like the guard found out and shot at the car. The third inaccuracy in the movie is that I look better than Richard Gomez. (Laughter)

How does it feel *na nag*-switch *kayo ng* position *ni* Sonny?

I don't know. I never thought of it that way. I've never tried to put myself in his position. All I know is I've been with the majority, minority, majority and back... I have a better handle now on how to maximize and optimize the use of my time and energy in the Senate. I know which bills I really should be paying more attention to. I'm usually the last senator to live the Senate. I usually leave at 8, 9 10 o'clock because even after sessions I go back and finish some work. That's' the best time of day to work *kasi* when you're there during the daytime, there's somebody knocking on your door every five minutes. You cannot concentrate. Unless I have something to do early in the morning, I stay at home and not answer my phone.

After the Senate, where?

I want to go back to farming. There's money to be made in high-value crops. You use hydroponics, you cover it...

Where? In Cebu?

No. I'll just buy here in Tagaytay, Laguna or Batangas. *Ang layo-layo pa ng* Cebu. My mother has farms but I don't bother with them.

Won't there be another Osmeña president?

Not me anyway... In six years *siguro* I've delivered six privilege speeches and these were mostly exposés.

What are you going to do after the Senate if you're not running for president?

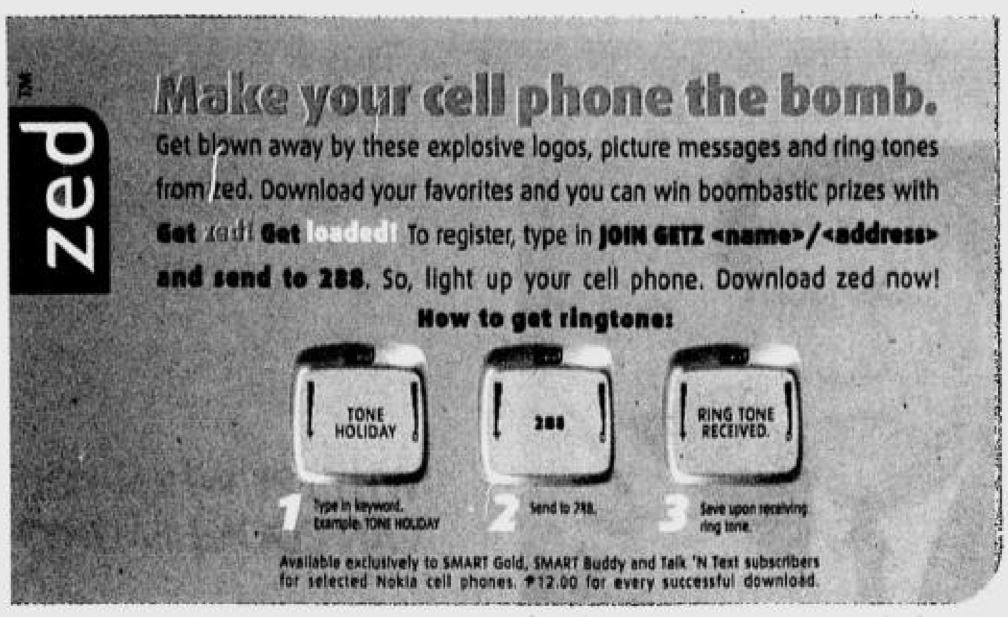
Binabatikos na ako ng INQUIRER, *eh, paano pa ako tatakbo* for president? (Laughter)

Look at what happened to people we *batikos*. They became president.

Like Erap. (Laughter)

It's how you live through this, *di ba*? That's gonna prove if you're 'presidentiable.'

I'll survive.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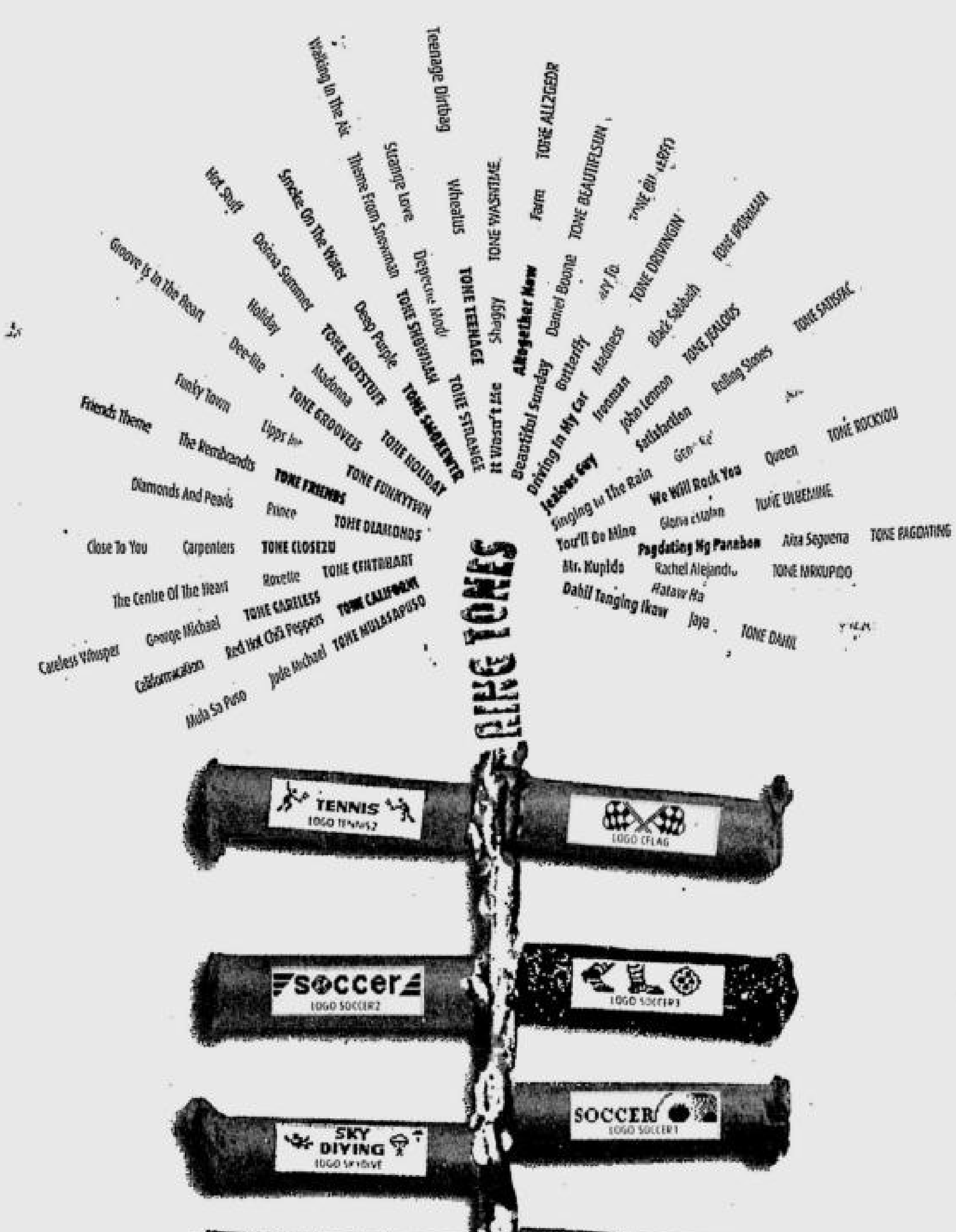
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Wheatus
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Farm
TONE BEAUTIFSUN
Groove Is In The Heart
Donna Summer
Depeche Mode
TONE TEENAGE
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Ironman
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TONE GROOVEIS
TONE HOLIDAY
Jealous Guy
Satisfaction
Friends Theme
The Rembrandts
Lipps Inc
TONE FUNKYTWN
Singing In The Rain
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TONE ROCKYOU
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TONE FRIENDS
Prince
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Pagdating Ng Panahon
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LOGO POOL1
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Cebu gets a stream of foreign guests

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

CANADA Day was celebrated at the Dragon Hall of the Cebu Plaza Hotel. Canadian Ambassador **Robert Collette** came with third secretary **Robert Burley** and **Richard Bale,** the embassy's senior trade commissioner. The red uniform of Constable **Owen Rusticus** of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police drew the guests' interest, as it did a few days before in a similar celebration in Davao City.

Honorary consul **Robert** and **Anna Lee** received the prominent guests. The couple hosted the following day a lauriat for Ambassador Collette at the Lily Room of the Grand Majestic. The party was attended by the Peace Philharmonic's **Ingrid Sala Santamaria** and **Susan Montenegro Sala**, Arts Council president **Petite Garcia**, Cathay Pacific's **Mark** and **Fiona Liu**, and **Paul Healey**, who does a terrific job at the Children's Center orphanage (many of the abandoned children are disabled).

The group discussed the coming concert on Oct. 6 at the Cebu Plaza ballroom of the Toronto Cantata Chorus, whose president is the Lees' pretty daughter **Aileen**. The show will be presented by the Arts Council. The Peace Philharmonic will accompany the visiting group. Cathay Pacific is flying the choir to Cebu via Hong Kong where they will perform at the Roman Catholic Cathedral. The Cebu performance will benefit the Children's Center.

The Embassy of Israel presented the Art of Hebrew Script in an interesting exhibit of panels with prints of Jewish manuscripts and ceremonial objects through the centuries and in many parts of the world, including Muslim territories like Persia more than 500 years ago.

ROBERT Burley, Ingrid Sala Santamaria and Canadian Ambassador Robert Collette

Hagit Ben-Yaakov, embassy charge d'affaires, came for the opening at Casa Gorordo where many Israeli exhibits were held before. She was quite emotional when she spoke, saying her farewell to a city where she had always felt so welcome, "so at home." "You received me with a hug the first time, and every time I have come here. You will always be in my heart wherever I go," she said.

Casa Gorordo's **Roel Rigor** and **Ferylin Leal** did a magnificent job preparing the exhibit, the program and the schedules. Also at the event were the president of the Shalom Club of Cebu **Chris Bautista** and Dr. **Vivina Chiu Yrastorza**, president of the Philippine-Israel Business Association (Cebu chapter), which organized another event a week later, an agricultural seminar at Europa Deli's function room. It was conducted by an expert on the subject—**Isaac Isaac**. Lectures were given in the morning. An impressive lunch was followed by a tour of an Israeli greenhouse in Cebu. The seminar was originally limited to 20 people, on a first come, first served basis, but close to 50 came.

Swiss National Day was celebrated at Europa Deli, where Switzerland's honorary consul in Cebu, **Markus Stern**, has his office. It was one of the most glittering social events of the season. Swiss Ambassador **Werner Baumann** came with first secretary **Francesco Ottolini** and attaché **Christopher Bolliger**. Toasts were made by Ambassador Baumann and Foreign Undersecretary **Franklin Ebdalin**.

Governor **Pablo Garcia**, Cebu City's Vice Mayor **Michael Rama** and the city's glamorous first lady, **Margot Vargas Osmeña**, attended. The elegant crowd feasted on Swiss cheeses, sausages, fondeaux and excellent wines. **Annabelle** and **Douglas Lu Ym** went home with a whole case of wine.

JUAN Manuel Feliz, Javier Galvan and Aissa de la Cruz of the Cebu Plaza Hotel

CONSTABLE Owen Rusticus with Robert and Anna Lee

AMPARITO Lhuillier and Vice Mayor Michael Rama

Two weeks later, still celebrating Swiss National Day, Markus Stern opened a Swiss Food Fest at Café Uno of the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel. The ribbon was cut by the Swiss embassy's charge d'affaires **Peter Casualta** and the hotel's general manager **Patrick Gregorio**. A tourism booth with **Christine Grunenfelder** and **Cornelia Sachsse** gave out glossy brochures of Switzerland's tourist spots.

The hotel's executive chef, **Dietmar Dietrich**, was congratulated for the fabulous spread. Waterfront's marketing director **Sheila Laxa** and PR manager **Joy Osmeña** noted how successful it was as diners filled every table. Mayor **Tommy Osmeña**'s table, which included city councilors, was one of the merriest.

Canadian, Israeli, Swiss, Spanish—the international community was in the Queen City

Javier Galvan, director of Instituto Cervantes in Manila, visited Cebu recently together with **Juan Manuel Feliz**, who heads the Confederacion Española de Organizaciones Empresariales. They called on **Dante Araneta** at the Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry where both organizations have set up classes in Spanish for businessmen.

Later, Mssrs. **Galvan** and **Feliz** were honorees at a luncheon hosted by the Casino Español de Cebu. It was attended by club president **Jess Cuenco**, director of cultural activities **Manuel Sainz Jr.**, **Ma. Cristina Garcia** of the Arts Council, **Maria Pilar Escano** who handles the Spanish classes, Prof. **Cesar Momongan** of St. Francis School and the casino's food consultant **Gema Luisa Pido**, who revised the menu so that Casino Español would serve authentic Spanish cuisine and much more.

This was not the gentlemen's first time in Cebu. Feliz had been here before to open the businessmen's Spanish courses, together with Ambassador **Delfin Colomé**. And Galvan, long before he took on the directorship of Instituto Cervantes, had come to pursue an interest—architecture. He has traveled to numerous islands of the Pacific and the Philippines to look at Spanish influence on architecture.

The Cebu chapter of La Chaine des Rotisseurs had an Italian dinner at the Palermo, fine dining restaurant of Plantation Bay. Cocktails were served in the garden adjacent to the lagoon, which was made more exotic by cascading water. At the Palermo, the decor was in the style of the Roman era, with waiters and maids in tunics. Customers were given golden laurel leaf crowns to wear during their meal.

Michel and **Amparito Lhuillier** (she is Madame La Baili of the Chaine in Cebu) came with their children **Michael** and **Joanna** (née **Maitland-Smith**); Plantation Bay's **Manny** and **Ellen Gonzalez** were beaming at the success of the event. Collecting congratulations, too, were the general manager **Efren Belarmino** and **Enzo Ciliani** who performs epicurean wonders.

The next Chaine dinner is an Emperor's Feast scheduled first week of September at the Chinese specialty restaurant of the Waterfront Hotel—Tin Gow.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

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PROMO MECHANICS

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Text to Milli,000,000ns Part 2 Quiz Game is a nationwide text-based quiz game for all SMART Gold, SMART Buddy, and Talk 'N Text subscribers in SMART-covered areas. Promo period will be from August 20, 2001 to November 11, 2001.

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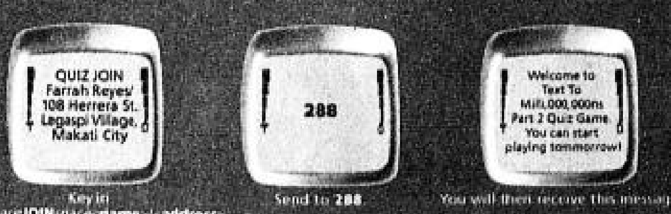
QUIZ JOIN Farrah Reyes/ 108 Herrera St. Legaspi Village, Makati City

Key in **QUIZ***space***JOIN***space***<name>**/**<address>**

288

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Welcome to Text To Milli,000,000ns Part 2 Quiz Game. You can start playing tommorrow!

You will then receive this message.

The cellular phone number will serve as the raffle entry identification (ID). There can only be one registered name per cellular phone number. Once a subscriber joins, no one else will be allowed to register using the same cellular phone number unless he quits the game. In the event that the winning cellular phone number was registered under two users within the same month, the current registered name will be recognized. However, one person can register several cellular phone numbers at one time.

TO RECEIVE THE DAILY QUIZ QUESTIONS

The participant simply registers and s/he will automatically receive the first question the following day. Questions will be sent to all registered participants everyday between 7:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. This is free of charge.

In case a participant wishes to start playing even before s/he receives the first question or doesn't receive the question right away, s/he can pull the question by keying in **Q** *and sending it to* **288**. *This is free of charge.*

TO ANSWER QUESTIONS

Key in **QUIZ***space***<question number>***space***<answer>**
Example: **QUIZ 1 A** and send to **288**.

If the participant's answer is correct, s/he receives a message of confirmation. Example: "Your answer was correct! Please wait for the next question." The next question will follow after the confirmation has been sent.

If the participant's answer is incorrect, s/he receives a message informing him/her that the answer given was incorrect. Example: "The correct answer is <letter>. Please wait for the next question." The next question will follow after the confirmation has been sent.

The participant will be charged ₱2.50 for each answer s/he sends to 288. The participant shall not be charged for questions received.

It is important that participants strictly observe proper keying in of keywords and spaces in order to avoid syntax error.

TO QUALIFY FOR THE RAFFLES

3 correct answers = 3 points = 1 raffle entry

In order to qualify for the day's raffle, the participant should answer all three (3) questions correctly before 12 midnight on the same day the questions were received. A maximum of one (1) raffle entry can be made in one day. *In the event that the participant fails to complete all three (3) correct answers for the day, his/her points will be carried over to the next day or until s/he completes three (3) correct answers within that same week. Participants may accumulate as many raffle entries as they can for the period of the week.*

TO VIEW RAFFLE ENTRIES

Key in **QUIZ ENTRY** and send to **288**. The processing of points and raffle entries earned by each participant is done every 12 midnight, at the end of each day. The participant should check his/her standing before answering the first question for the day. *Rate for Quiz Entry is ₱2.50.*

TO QUIT

(In cases when a participant wishes to register his/her cellular phone number under a different name or opts to quit the game)

The participant keys in **QUIZ QUIT** and sends it to **288**. To register the number under a different name, the participant should just repeat the registration steps. All valid entries made prior to quitting will still be included in the weekly, monthly and grand draw under the new registered name. *Rate for Quiz Quit is ₱2.50.*

TO VIEW GAME RULES

Key in **QUIZ RULES** and send to **288**. *Rate for Quiz-Rules is ₱2.50* regardless of how many reply messages the participant receives.

TO GET KEYWORDS FOR THE GAME

Key in **HELP QUIZ** and send to **288**.

For more information, SMART and Talk 'N Text subscribers may call to make inquiries through *888 free of charge. Metro Manila subscribers may also inquire through SMART Customer Hotline number 888-1111 for free. For provincial subscribers they may call the local SMART Wireless Centers for free. Local SMART Wireless Centers' telephone numbers are indicated in local flyers. They may also consult SMART's Customer Care Hotline through 888-1111 at regular NDD rates.

See flyers for complete mechanics.

Promo period, draw dates and prizes are as follows:

WEEK	Period Covered	Draw Dates (MON)	Prizes
Week 1	August 20– August 26	August 27, 2001	₱50,000.00
Week 2	August 20- September 2	September 3, 2001	₱50,000.00
Week 3	August 20 - September 9	September 10, 2001	₱50,000.00
First Monthly Draw	August 20 - September 16	September 17, 2001	₱125,000.00
Week 4	August 20 - September 23	September 24, 2001	₱75,000.00
Week 5	August 20 - September 30	October 1, 2001	₱75,000.00
Week 6	August 20 - October 7	October 8, 2001	₱75,000.00
Second Monthly Draw	August 20 – October 14	October 15, 2001	₱200,000.00
Week 7	August 20 – October 21	October 22, 2001	₱100,000.00
Week 8	August 20 – October 28	October 29, 2001	₱100,000.00
Week 9	August 20 - November 4	November 5, 2001	₱100,000.00
Grand Draw	August 20 - November 11	November 12, 2001	₱2,000,000.00

SMART

Simply Amazing!

THIS PROMO IS AVAILABLE TO SUBSCRIBERS OF:

SMART GOLD GSM · SMART Buddy · TALK'N TEXT

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1279, Series of 2001

Downright amusing, downright Loren

COMPILED BY
CHELO BANAL-FORMOSO

AT THE BIRTHDAY party of moviedom's eternal mother, **Lily Monteverde** of Regal Films, Sen. **Loren Legarda** showed up with a gift-wrapped rectangular box, one that was perfect for, well, a Nokia 3210.

Legarda's birthday present to Mother Lily instantly drew teasing comments from the other guests but La Loren was unruffled. She simply laughed off all the jokes. It seems that after she asked **Ador Mawanay** to retract during the Senate hearing an earlier allegation he made that *senadora* had ordered 1,000 smuggled cell phones, everybody started asking her for a 3210. "I wish I really had them to give away. I would have made a lot of people happy," she said.

Now, if you can wangle a Nokia 3210 from Loren and get **Kim** "I'm only a restaurateur" **Wong** to pay your Globe Telecom bills, you're set for life.

Going to London, Guv?

REMEMBER the young provincial chief from the North who reportedly left his wife for a gorgeous makeup stylist? Or was it the missus who left him?

If you believe one camp, he's supposed to be making frequent trips to London to try to woo his wife's love back. If you listen to the other camp, he's happily awaiting the birth of his first child by his paramour. Which is which, only the Guv'nor knows. What's for sure is that he is quicker to get irked by questions about his family life these days. Let's see, how can we get this across as gently as possible? If you can't take the beatings, get out of the arena. Otherwise, you're fair game.

FREE SPEECH

Gas prices differ

WE are writing in response to an item in your Aug. 19 issue where our service station was reported to be selling unleaded gasoline at 40 centavos per liter higher than the "normal" price.

Like any other commodity, the prices of gasoline products differ from one area to another because each area is subject to different market forces. These forces—such as supply, demand and competition factors—differ with geography. For instance, a retail station situated in a highly commercialized area such as Makati will naturally pay more for the land where it is located, compared to a gas station near a residential area like Sucat in Parañaque. Unfortunately, this difference in land values between the two stations has a direct effect on the pricing of their products.

Aside from location, the level of competition in a specific area also influences prices. Sometimes, prices are lower in an area with more gasoline stations than one with a lesser number of stations. Why? Because more players battle for the right to be chosen by the consumer to spend his money on. And offering lower prices is often resorted to in attracting the consumer.

Thus, a retail station located far from other stations has a different pricing policy compared to that on Sumulong Highway and Marcos Highway, where retail stations have mushroomed one after another.

The fact that different locations

DOWNRIGHT/p.E2

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KEEP grooving to the beat with the Sony V-Series Mini Compo.

OUR future's so bright, we gotta wear Oakley shades.

Download and win

DOWNLOAD ring tones and icons until October and win the coolest prizes from Zed.

Each download you make with your Smart Gold, Smart Buddy, or Talk 'N Text phone gives you a chance to win any of more than P3 million worth of prizes.

Prizes include four Piaggio Vespa scooters, a Sony Wega 34" DVD Home Theater System, a Sony Wega 29", a Compaq iPaq Pocket PC, a Gameboy Advance, Oakley Penny and Minute jacket shades or a Mike Triax 50 Laps watch.

You can also get a Sony CD Walkman, Sony V-Series Mini-component, Sony Cyber Shots and Sony Handycams.

Register by keying in JOIN GETZ <name>/<address> and send it to 288. Then start downloading your favorite ring tones, logos, icons and picture messages. Or send them to someone else.

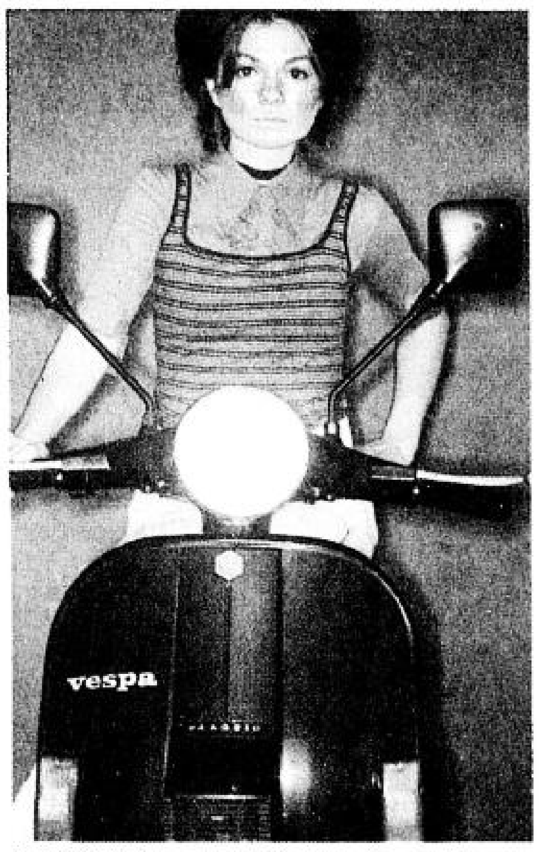
Each download or send gives you one raffle entry. So the more downloads, the more chances of winning.

Weekly raffle draws will be held until Oct. 8, with two major raffles in between.

For details, key in HELP GETZ and send to 288. Key in ENTRY GETZ to check how many entries you have.

If you need to get keywords for the services, key in HELP LOGO, HELP TONE, HELP PIC or HELP ICON.

Zed is the world's leading mobile portal, providing the most personalized service you can get on your Smart Gold, Smart Buddy or Talk 'N Text cell phone.

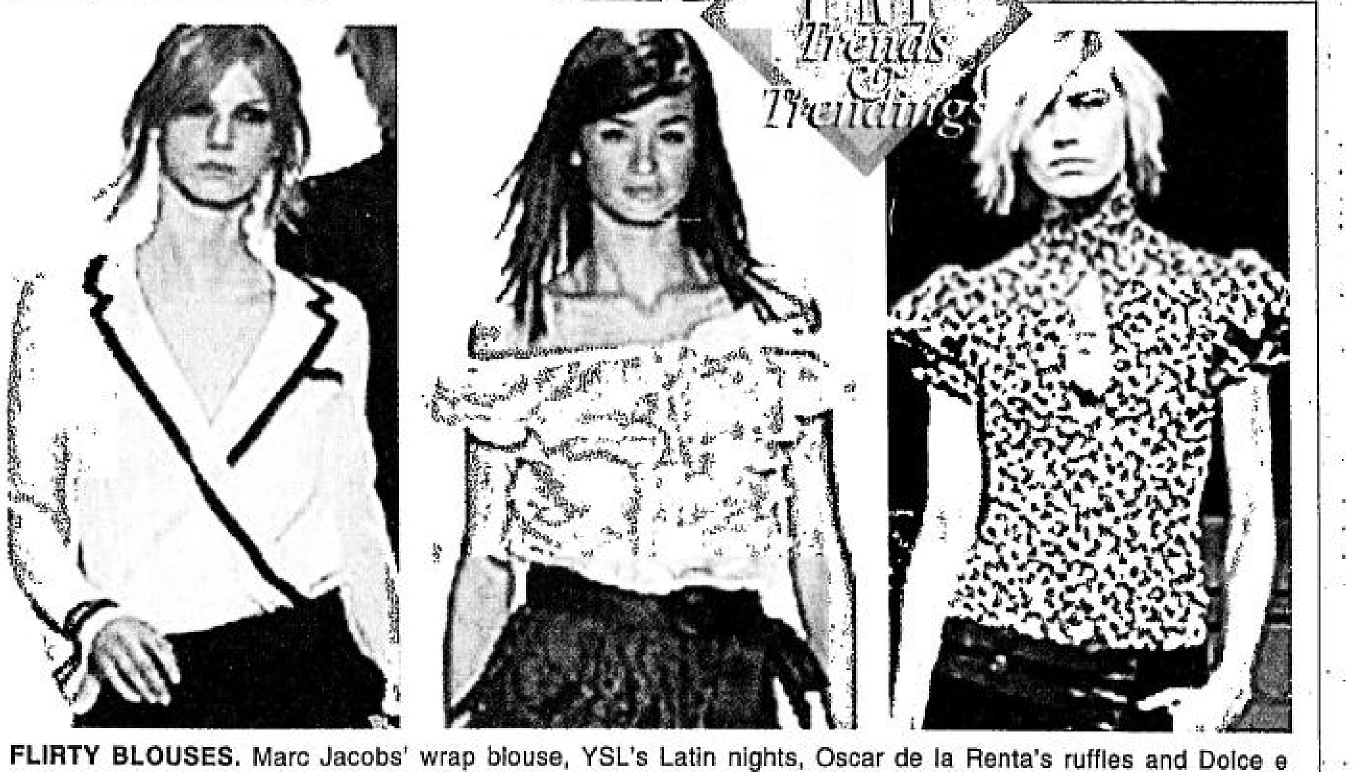


SCOOTING around will never be as fun as on a Piaggio Vespa PX 150

BE the coolest with Gameboy Advance and Oakley shades.

BETTER lock up your Sony DVD Home Theater system before your house turns into the neigborhood moviehouse.

BUSY schedules are no prob with the Compaq iPaq Pocket PC.



FLIRTY BLOUSES. Marc Jacobs' wrap blouse, YSL's Latin nights, Oscar de la Renta's ruffles and Dolce e Gabbana's puffy sleeves. Floral patterns are some of the blouses to choose from.

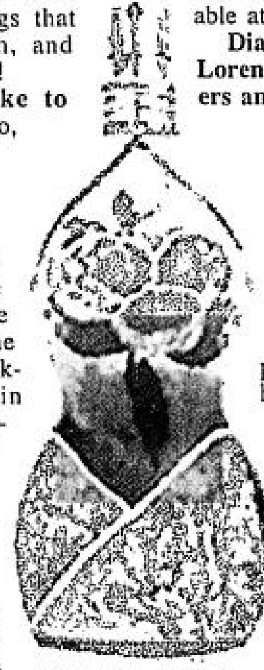
Flirty blouses, Gaultier's new scent and the scene at Shiraz

By Anton San Diego

MUST-HAVE fashion—flirty blouses. Most of the designers showed lots of frilly feminine blouses in floral patterns, pouf sleeves, ruffles, wraps, etc. It's actually rock 'n' roll meets feminine/tough chic. The rule here is not to cover it by wearing a jacket; the blouse is the conversation and statement piece. Here's another piece of advice: Wearing a blouse shows everything so don't wear sleeveless when your arms are like flags that wave when raised. Oh, and don't forget the attitude!

TNT would not like to thank... Two weeks ago, TNT was in a spirit of gratitude. This week the tables have turned. Maybe it's the Senate proceedings, the deaths in QC Manor Hotel or the rains and floodings. We would like to share the things we are "not thankful" for, like: a certain newscaster with a penchant for hair spray... The Senate and the current Ador/Corpus proceedings; for some senators it goes to show why we should not have voted for them and put **Winnie Monsod** there instead. Some senators' questions show how stupid they really are... Mosquitoes and the dreaded dengue fever... Egotistical people... Kidnappings, murder and crime... Hypocrites... Fire and the death it causes; I hope mayors, city engineers, etc. would really close buildings that don't follow rules... People with bad breath, B.O. and who are stingy... Pollution... Horrible-tasting medicines and painful injections... Women who wear the wrong clothes for their age... Flabby arms on women especially when they wear sleeveless... Men with pot bellies and unsightly hair growing from their moles... Actors and actresses who are bad role models to the youth... Movie stars who can't act... **Ping Lacson** and the mess he's gotten the Philippines into, and this is just one person (again!)... Expensive things that don't work... Cancer, AIDS and other sicknesses... Drugs, except maybe for Viagra (right, **Mar?!**)... **Sonny Osmeña.** What happened? We thought he was in the opposition? How easy people change. Does that mean that people should absolve him of his actions during the impeachment trial? Just asking.

Must-have cologne for women—Jean Paul Gaultier's Summer. If you go to any department store or beauty bar, there are so many fragrances to choose from that you either get confused or irritated with the scents. Well, here's one that not too many will have (limited edition only) and will be a sure-fire hit among the women out there. Jean Paul Gaultier's new scent is a combination of mandarin, orange water, Bulgarian rose, bergamot and Italian lemon, ylang ylang, woody amber and vanilla, to name a few ingredients. Jean Paul Gaultier fragrances are available at Rustan's and SM.



JEAN Paul Gaultier's Classique

Diary of Constance Brooke San Lorenzo Pendleton: "Social climbers and cheap people." This week our much loved socialite and ex-Mare gets bitchy and talks about that lovely new bar Shiraz and the people who shouldn't be there.

"I have to tell you, this is *the* place to be, finally a bar for adults. For some reason, practically every other bar has chosen to go after the prepubescent market. Isn't that strange? All you see are hordes of quite inelegant children sipping one beer all night. That doesn't seem to make good business sense. But, go figure.

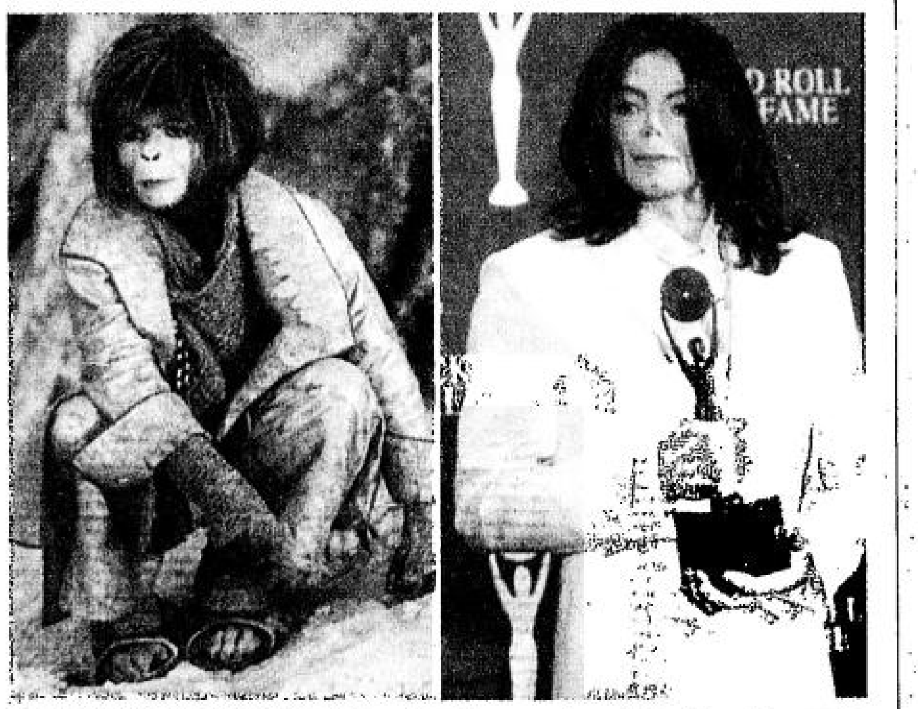
"Shiraz is all about the revenge of the slightly more mature and the drop-dead elegant. From a business point of view it also seems to make more sense—after all, this crowd drinks like the fish in the ocean. So less people but more money. Who can fault that? In many ways, it reminds me of **Mr. Chow** in NY when **Tina Chow** reigned supreme. At last, a place to dress up and mingle with my sort of people!

"Speaking of the 'right sort,' when I was there last week with my velvets and a bevy of elegant straight men and women, I came to the conclusion that Shiraz is like mosquito repellent for people of the cheap variety. Picture this—a balding gay dermatologist walked in with two or three of his equally non-plush friends. They never made it beyond the foot of the stairs—literally.

"Later, a group of girls who reminded me of the song that goes "*kalapating mababa ang lipad*" was similarly repelled. I must admit I did feel some pity for them.

"If you're the sort (my sort) who has intense dislike for cheap people then Shiraz *is* the place for you. Now please don't get me wrong—I am not writing another mindless set of putdowns. I think pretension makes people cheap in the same way that honesty brings style. And everyone who was repelled that night was pretentious to the extreme. I have no problem with social climbers—I think they liven up our world. But I do have problems with social climbers who do it on the cheap. If you're going to climb, darling, do it in the grandest way possible. Cheap just doesn't cut it."

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com



SEPARATED AT BIRTH? Michael Jackson and a simian from the movie "Planet of the Apes." Do you think Michael's real role model for his new face is Bubbles and not Diana Ross?

Downright amusing, downright Loren

(From page E1)

have different prices is evidence that competitive market forces are at work. And this is the beauty of a deregulated oil sector. In a deregulated environment, competition forces station dealers to become efficient and creative in their business by offering better products, better services, better operating efficiency and lower prices. Under such a business environment, consumers are the winners as he gets to have more choices in terms of products, prices and services.

The issue should not be oversimplified as a matter of "overpricing" but see it in the context of prices being driven by market forces. Gasoline station dealers are also consumers. They are well aware of the fact that selling at higher prices is a business risk since motorists can easily go to another station with a lower selling price. While they are aware of such a risk, they also have a commitment to pay their obligations to their workers and meet other expenses such as electricity, water and telephone bills.

(Sgd.) SUSAN ENTRATA
Guadalupe Caltex Station

Hospital replies

THE MEDICAL City at the Ortigas Center in Mandaluyong City sent the following information on some of their services that were inadvertently reported as not available in the "Bills of Health" chart (PDI Lifestyle, 09/12/01):

Outpatient chemotherapy: Cost of drugs and other supplies depends on type of cancer. The use of the chemotherapy unit ranges from P350-P700 depending on the length of stay at the unit. For outpatient radiation therapy, procedure costs P350 while the use of simulator ranges from P1,600-P2,200 and radiotherapy planning cost is at P450.

Dialysis treatment is available and acetate ranges from P1,795-P3,315 while bicarbonate is from P2,465-P3,985.

Coronary angioplasty costs anywhere from P120,000-P200,000 excluding professional fees.

Heart bypass costs from P470,000 for a 10-day stay in a small private room to P518,000 for a 10-day stay in a large private room.

Deposit required ranges from P1,500-P6,000 and patient's medicines must be bought in hospital's pharmacy as part of the quality assurance program.

Dining: Patients and visitors can be served by hospital concessionaire Café Med and room service is available. They can also purchase takeout food from the employees' canteen.

From the reader

I READ your article "Bills of Health" where you compared rates of the different hospitals in Manila.

I would like to bring to your attention, and share with your readers, the experience I just had.

On Aug. 2, I had a high fever and bodyache that lasted for some days, so on Aug. 6 I went to Dr. Victor R. Potenciano Medical Center (VRPMC), formerly known as the Polymedic General Hospital in Mandaluyong. I went to the lab, where blood was extracted for a CBC and platelet count. My bill for these two tests was P370.

On Aug. 7, my two children aged 6 and 8, got high fever as well. On Aug. 9, my wife and I took them to our pediatrician, who holds clinic in the above-mentioned hospital. Our pediatrician suggested that they take a blood test the following day. She introduced us to a company called Medex located in Makati. This company offers home service for a minimal extra fee.

The next morning, Aug. 10, a nurse came to our residence and extracted blood from both our children. The tests that were conducted were: CBC, platelet count, prothrombin time and partial tromboplastin time.

My bill for all these tests was P950 for both [kids] including P120 home service charge. So the actual amount for the tests was P415 per child.

After getting the results of the tests, our pediatrician called us and told us that our children might be infected with dengue. She advised us to have our children admitted. So on Aug. 10, we brought both our children to the VRPMC.

Both are at home now getting better. However, I got a bitter taste after seeing the hospital bill.

For the CBC and platelet count that they did for me on Aug. 6, they charged me P370. For my children, they charged me P630 each for exactly the same test. Isn't it odd, to say the least, that as soon as it is confirmed that one is so sick that he/she requires hospitalization, the rates immediately go up to almost double the "normal" rate?

Compared to the rates of Medex, it became even worse. For the four tests done on Aug. 10 by Medex, I paid P415 per child. The same tests were done again at VRPMC and this hospital was charging P1,640 or P1,225 more for exactly the same tests.

During their stay from Aug. 10-13, both my children needed three tests each. Can you imagine my bill, and how much "overpriced" it was?

I also compared their rate of P250 for urinalysis to the rates in the chart. Also, here, they are the most expensive.

I've been [going] to this hospital since 1992. In fact, both our children were born there. But during those days it was still the Polymedic General Hospital.

Their logo now says: "The hospital that cares." I just wonder what exactly it is they care about. Certainly not about one's wallet.

Secondly, people should inquire with the hospital whether they have enough "qualified" nurses. I say this because many nurses have gone abroad, or are going abroad, specifically to the US and UK. This became very clear when our children were admitted. My wife, who was staying with them, was the one who took their temperature, gave them their medicine, wiped their bodies when the fever wouldn't go down. All the time she was doing the work that was supposed to be done by the nurses. When we inquired with our pediatrician, she told us that there were simply not enough nurses.

I hope you can share this experience with your readers

JAN H. KERKDIJK
Kapitolyo, Pasig

PNAS holds coin, banknote and stamp exposition

AS part of celebrations marking the 150th anniversary of the Bank of the Philippine Islands, the Philippine Numismatic & Antiquarian Society (PNAS) will hold its 28th Coin, Banknote, Stamp and Collectibles Exposition at the Ayala Museum today.

The exposition will feature a bourse and an auction. The bourse, consisting of around 20 tables, will provide a venue where foreign and local collectors and dealers can buy and sell items.

There will be some 900 items on auction, including coins and medals, banknotes, postal items, photographs, books and other collectibles. The highlight of the sale is the most valuable of Philippine rare medals, the so-called "Wilson Gold Dollar," only five of which exist. They were presented only to very important officials. Some 2,200 silver and 3,700 bronze specimens were issued to commemorate the opening of the Philippine Mint on July 15, 1920. The obverse bears the bust of US President Woodrow Wilson; the reverse shows a woman holding a balance scale and a child pouring metal planchets into a coining press.

Other rare items on sale include a high-quality 20 *centimos* coin dated 1880, which will start at P95,000, and four 1908-issued banknotes of different denominations from El Banco Español Filipino (BPI), starting from P18,000 up to P78,000. A rare block of four of a type of stamp issued by the Aguinaldo government, with "administracion central" cancellations, starts at P42,000; while a very early Philippine souvenir mailing card postmarked Oct. 16, 1898, starts at P13,000. Most of the items, however, will start from as low as P250. Transactions will be computed at the exchange rate of the day.

The PNAS was established in 1929 by hobbyists and first headed by the American numismatist Gilbert Perez. Some of its members and officers through the years include Don Felipe Hidalgo, Don Jesus Cacho, Dr. Jose Bantug, Dr. P.I. de Jesus, Fernando Zobel, Benito Legarda Jr., Dr. Angelita Legarda, Jaime C. Laya, Mayor Feliciano Belmonte Jr., William Villareal, Richard Lopez and Mariano Cacho Jr.

The exhibit, bourse and auction are open to the public. Entrance is free.

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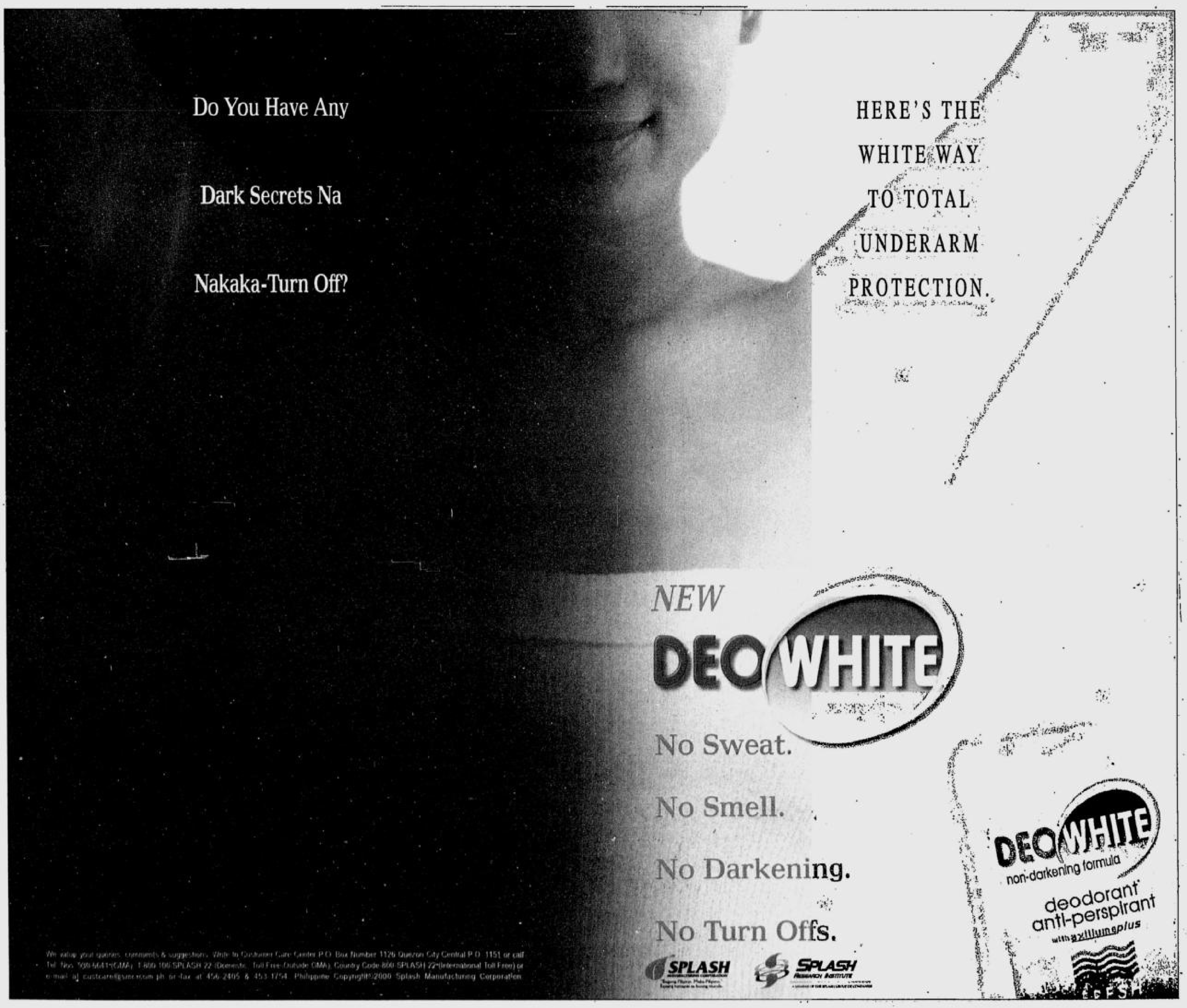
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Ayala Malls launch new website, text promos, and e-lounge

Setting the trend in providing Filipinos with the most rewarding of shopping experiences and living up to the new campaign line "Because you deserve more!" the Ayala Malls will soon open their interactive website <ayalamalls.com.ph> and what they call an e-tertainment (e) lounge -- expected to be the trendiest hang-out in the malls.

The website is yet another effort to put Ayala Center Makati, Ayala Center Cebu, and Alabang Town Center virtually open 24 hours a day for queries on mall events, merchant lists, shop offerings, and cinema features.

Information explosion -- that's what it is, available at a click.

Like only the best of websites, this service is designed to be interactive. To give feedback which the Ayala Malls will always consider valuable, customers can just type away their recommendations and send them all out, confident that none will be taken lightly.

And to make it even easier to connect, very soon Ayala Malls will even accept consumer feedback via text powered by Pinoy Exchange.com. Right now, just by texting "Hello Ayala Malls," cellphone subscribers get to join games and win cool prizes and freebies.

But that's not all. Also scheduled to open across G2L3 (the gimmick place for teens, what with Music One, Toby's, The Red and Telecom Lanes) is the e-lounge, an entertainment hub envisioned to feature a wide range of state-of-the-art options never before offered to the Gen Y consumer.

Imagine an internet café that not only showcases cutting-edge computers, cellphones, handheld organizers and other IT stuff. The e-lounge will offer those... and more.

Go ahead and play Counterstrike. Download songs there from music sites, burning the tunes onto a CD. Edit videos from a digital video camera. Visit the lounge retail shops, where all sorts of gadgets and gizmos will be available. And, not to forget, party in an area specially cordoned off for product launches and corporate affairs.

The Ayala Malls Website and the Ayala Center Makati e-lounge -- only two of the new ways to stay connected with the pleasures of 21st century shopping.

Only two of the many more ways that will be made by Ayala Malls -- making your experience even more rewarding.

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A large and established American Multinational Consumer company is seeking qualified applicants for various positions:

FINANCE

Senior Accountants (S Ac)

- Male/Female, 23-35 years old;
- Accounting graduate, preferably a CPA and/or with MBA degree or units;
- Excellent oral and written communication skills;
- Can work under minimum supervision, keen on details and possesses high analytical skills;
- With strong working knowledge in any of the following areas acquired from a medium to large manufacturing firm.

Financial Analyst (FA)

- Male/Female, not more than 35 years old;
- Accounting, business or economics degree holder; should belong to top 15% of graduating class;
- Preferably with MBA degree or units;
- With experience in Corporate/Strategic Planning and/or Financial Analysis gained from a multinational environment or accounting firm/management consulting/ business research organization;
- Excellent report-writing, verbal and interpersonal skills;
- Highly motivated, fast-tracker, works well under pressure.

Systems Analyst (S An)

- Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Computer Science and other related courses;
- With at least 2 years experience in MS-Access and SQL;
- Experience in implementation of datawarehousing/business intelligence systems (Cognos, Business Objects) a big plus;
- Experience in implementation of AS/400 ERP software (BPCS, JDE, PRISM etc.) in a manufacturing environment also a big plus;
- Highly motivated, fast-tracker, works well under pressure.

OPERATIONS

Quality Assurance Manager (QAM)

- Male/Female, not over 40 years old;
- College graduate in Chemistry, Food Science, Food Microbiology, or any related course;
- 3-5 years experience in food processing and/or packaged food manufacturing in a supervisory capacity, with two (2) years experience in microbiological analyses of dairy and other food products;
- Broad knowledge of quality management systems (HACCP, ISO 9000. etc.).

Engineering Services Supervisor (ESS)

- Male, not over 40 years old;
- Electrical, engineering or mechanical engineering graduate;
- At least one (1) year work experience as supervisor preferably in a manufacturing set-up;
- Knowledgeable in PLC and CMMS;
- Knowledgeable in Automation, Pneumatics, Electronics and Hydraulics;
- Good oral and written communication skills;
- Has handled operation and maintenance of steam boilers, HVAC, air compressors and other utilities and facilities equipment;
- Computer literate.

Warehouse Supervisor (WS)

- Male/Female, not over 40 years old;
- College graduate, preferably engineering course;
- Has strong supervisory skills and good analytical skills;
- At least 3 years warehouse experience in a computerized environment will be an advantage;
- Knowledgeable in Microsoft office.

Purchasing Officer – Engineering (PO)

- Male, not over 35 years old;
- College graduate of any engineering course with above average scholastic record;
- Minimum of 2 years experience in engineering materials, equipment and services buying preferably in a manufacturing company;
- Above average oral and written communication skills in English;
- Computer literate.

Microbiologist (M)

- Male/Female, not over 35 years old;
- Graduate of BS Biology major in Microbiology/BS Microbiology/ BS Biochemistry;
- 3-5 years experience in food processing microbiological or pharmaceutical laboratory in a supervisory capacity
- Good oral and written communication skills;
- Computer literate.

Draftsman (D)

- Male, not over 35 years old;
- Engineering course graduate;
- Knowledgeable in mechanical drafting/industrial design or equivalent;
- Knowledgeable in CAD software applications for plans and drawings;
- Computer literate and has good oral and written communication skills.

Production Analyst (PT)

- Male/Female, not over 29 years old;
- Must be an Industrial Engineering graduate;
- Minimum of 2 years experience as industrial engineer in a manufacturing plant;
- Knowledgeable in time and motion study, methods analysis, manpower complementation, value engineering, establishment and maintenance of production standards and performance measurement
- Background in PRISM or related systems will be an advantage
- Proficient in MS Excel, Word, Access, PowerPoint and Project.

PPIC Analyst (PA)

- Male, not over 35 years old;
- Preferably college graduate in Mechanical Engineering/ Industrial Engineering/Chemical Engineering/Computer Science;
- At least one (1) year experience in a manufacturing set-up;
- Has knowledge in materials requirement planning;
- Good analytical skills; computer literate.

Quality Control Analysts (QCA)

- Male/Female not over 35 years old;
- BS Chemistry graduates;
- ISO and HACCP literate, with professional license.

SALES

Key Accounts Managers (KAM)

- Male/Female, not over 35 years old;
- Graduates of any 4-year college course;
- Knowledgeable in retail and consumer goods industry will be an advantage;
- Above average oral and written communication skills
- Must have good analytical skills;
- Computer literate.

FOOD SERVICES

Account Development Executive – Visayas (ADE-V)

- Male/Female, not over 35 years old;
- Preferably college graduate of Business, Marketing, Economics, HRM and other related courses;
- Minimum of 2 years experience in sales promotions on marketing of consumer/institutional products or service;
- Must possess a strong track record as an achiever;
- Good oral and written communication skills;
- Must have a good business sense;
- With excellent human relations skills.

Qualified applicants kindly send your comprehensive resume (indicating your last salary, contact numbers, and the position code) together with a copy of your transcript of records to:

The Human Resources Department
P.O. Box No. 60
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Atrium of Makati, Makati Avenue, Makati City

We are a prestigious publishing company inviting dynamic and highly motivated individuals who are equally proficient in both **English** and **Filipino languages** to fill-up the following key positions:

EDITOR

He/she should have significant experience in the publishing industry. He/she must be reader-focused, possessing a nose for news and an eye for detail. He/she must also have a good feel of the pulse of the middle class. On top of his/her editorial expertise, he/she should be a visionary and a leader, being able to manage a news team with excellence and efficiency.

COPY EDITORS

The best fit candidates should have solid hands-on experience in editing stories and layouting pages. They must possess effective people skills and computer skills, handling both with impeccable coordination. Must be comfortable with computer office softwares like Pagemaker.

REPORTERS

These individuals should have experience in covering and reporting news events. Dynamic, resourceful, and self-driven, candidates should also have excellent communication and interpersonal skills. They must be deft in conducting research and interviews. Should be flexible and able to think "out of the box".

Interested individuals are encouraged to e-mail their application letter, picture and comprehensive resumés to quadratic@edsamail.com.ph. Kindly indicate the position you are applying for on the subject of your e-mail.

Universal Rightfield Property Holdings, Inc.

is

ORGANIZING A SALES FORCE!

We are in need of young, aspiring and determined property consultants (preferably female) to form our team.

Our objective is to market ready to occupy condominium units. That's All!

And because of this, you'll have the opportunity to advance financially as well as professionally.

We offer an attractive incentive package (i,e. allowance, commissions)

So, if you are anywhere between the ages 21-30 years, preferably with experience in real estate sales, and ready to face the ever challenging world of property marketing, come and see us at...

Universal Rightfield Property Holdings, Inc.,
Unit 713 Globe Telecom Plaza II
Pioneer Highlands, Mandaluyong City

From: Monday - Thursday (August 27-30, 2001)
9:30 a.m. - 12:00 noon
1:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Please come in your corporate attire.

MANAGERIAL

WWW.PEOPLESUPPORT.COM

DO YOU HAVE TRAVEL RESERVATIONS EXPERIENCE?

PEOPLESUPPORT

We're looking for:

traVeL eReps™

Qualifications:

2+ years' experience in airline reservations (preferably international), or hotel/car rental reservations. 4-yr college degree. Excellent customer service orientation, english communication and good typing skills. Internet savvy. Willing to work shifts.

or

Tourism/HRM graduate, with 6 months - 1 year experience in airline reservations (preferably international), or hotel/car rental reservations. Customer service orientation. Excellent English communication and good typing skills. Internet savvy. Willing to work shifts.

NOTE: FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

We're also looking for:

eReps™

PeopleSupport's customer service representatives who provide online customer service via email management, chat, voice-over-IP and phone on a 24x7 basis. **Qualifications:** 4-yr college degree. Excellent customer service orientation, english communication and good typing skills. Internet savvy. Willing to work shifts. For our more technical clients, those with technical knowledge is a plus!

Software DeveloPeR

Responsible for developing application systems for PeopleSupport using Visual Basic, ASP and SQL. Will support a data warehouse and reporting system. **Qualifications:**Engineering or Computer Science graduate. Minimum of 3+ years' experience as programmer or systems analyst. Excellent oral and written communication skills. Experience with leading software development technology such as ASP, VB, MS SQL Server and Crystal Reports. Willing to go to PeopleSupport's Corporate Headquarters for on-the-job training. Experience in web development, project management and exposure to software development methodologies a plus.

PeopleSupport provides online customer service via email, chat, voice-over-IP, and phone. Our global network is composed of corporate headquarters in L.A., US operations center in St. Louis, Missouri, sales offices strategically placed in major cities in the US, and of course, the Asia Pacific Headquarters in Manila, Philippines.

EMAIL YOUR RESUMES TO:
applicants@peoplesupport.com
12TH - 14TH FL. PHILAMLIFE TOWER, 8767 PASEO DE ROXAS, SALCEDO VILLAGE, MAKATI

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CKI

COUNTRY BANKERS INSURANCE CORPORATION

Country Bankers Insurance Corporation is engaged in non-life insurance for 31 years now. We are currently in search of people who will take part in our expansion program.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

(code: ma/03)

Implements marketing goals and activities, provides marketing assistance/service to General Agents & Rural Bank Accounts, negotiates with other Corporate Accounts, may conduct training from time to time

- Marketing or Mass-Com Graduate.
- Preferably Male, not more than 30 years of age. With at last 3 years experience in sales.
- Proficient in both oral and written communication.
- Computer literate.
- Willing to travel nationwide.

NON-LIFE INSURANCE AGENTS

(code: nla/01)

Prospects for clients, solicits non-life insurance business, and provide post sale servicing to clients.

- At least 2 years in College.
- Male or Female, not more than 30 years of age.
- No experience is required.
- Sales-oriented and People-oriented
- Persistent and Dedicated.
- Trust-Worthy.

Successful candidates can look forward to excellent compensation package. Applicants are requested to apply personally in business attire with their comprehensive resumé, recent pictures (2x2) and transcript of records.

The Human Resource Department
G/F Country Bankers Centre
#648 T.M. Kalaw, Manila
E-mail: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: Country Bankers)

Sensormatic
securing today's business

SENSORMATIC ELECTRONIC CORPORATION is the World's Leading Designer, Manufacturer and Distributor of Integrated Electronic Security products with the World Headquarter located at Boca Raton, Florida, U.S.A. is looking for:

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

- ➢ College graduate (preferably Marketing/Management and Business course)
- ➢ At least 25-35 years old, preferably female
- ➢ With good oral and written communication
- ➢ Must have a marketing/sales experience of at least 2 years
- ➢ Willing to be trained in Sales or in Marketing
- ➢ Must have a positive attitude towards work

Interested applicants may send no later than August 31, 2001, their Letter of Intent and Resumé to:

Ms. Mary Rose S. Licardo
Unit 2204 Prestige Tower Condominium
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1605
Tel.: 632-910-6636; Fax 632-910-6638
Email: sensorma@skyinet.net

SYKES℠
Real People. Real Solutions.

macromedia

With 44 call centers worldwide, Sykes is a global leader in providing customer and technical support services for many of the world's best known companies. From its Manila Call Center, Sykes currently supports 15 clients in 6 languages, handling the transactions throughout Asia, Europe and the USA.

Our recent expansion includes the provision of Technical Support Services for **Macromedia**, one of the world's largest independent software companies, and the company behind many market leading products in the field of web, graphics and multimedia design. Due to this, we are in immediate need of highly qualified Technical Support Engineers. Applicants should be college graduates, fluent in written and spoken English, with proven skills in business writing, phone handling and should have strong customer service orientation. They must also be analytical, results-oriented and should be a team player. More importantly, applicants should be willing to work on a shifting schedule.

ColdFusion Technical Support

- Minimum of 1 year hands-on experience with ColdFusion or ColdFusion Studio
- Technical knowledge on any Macromedia products or previous experience on products of a similar nature in a commercial environment required
- Hands-on experience on any or all of the following platforms: Windows (Win95, 98, 2000, NT), Macintosh (OS 8 and above), UNIX (Linux, Solaris or HP/UX)
- Extensive experience in HTML, webservers, networking configuration, TCP/IP and advanced software troubleshooting
- Basic knowledge of RDBMS and JavaScript

JRun Technical Support

- Adept in JAVA Programming and is capable of providing general JRun installation and configuration assistance and must have a familiarity with HTTP specifications
- Technical knowledge on any Macromedia products or previous experience on products of a similar nature in a commercial environment required
- Multimedia and/or internet development experience with expertise on ASP, Javascript, JSP, Java, VBScript, XML and other related programming languages
- Hands-on experience on any or all of the following platforms: Windows (Win 95, 98, 2000, NT), Macintosh (OS 8 and above), UNIX (Linux, Solaris or HP/UX)
- Extensive experience in HTML, Servlet programming, networking configuration, TCP/IP and advanced software troubleshooting

This is an urgent requirement. If you think you possess the qualifications and skills that we are looking for, kindly submit your updated resumé along with your web profiles to the **Human Resources Department**, 4F SMPC Building, St. Francis Avenue, Ortigas Center, Mandaluyong City 1550. You can also send it via e-mail at hrd@man.ph.sykes.com

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Pivo Praha
Czech Pilsner Microbrewery

ASSISTANT BREW MASTER

To oversee the operations of a microbrewery located in Bel-Air, Makati. The candidate should -

- be a graduate of Food Technology or other related course from a reputable school;
- have a background in microbiology and knowledge of the fermentation process;
- be willing to learn how to handle and operate microbrewery equipment;
- be analytical and a fast learner.

The qualified candidate will train under a Czech Brew Master and will be sent to Prague to undergo an 8-week apprenticeship.

Interested applicants may send their resume, 2x2 picture, and transcript of records to -

Code : ABM
The Recruitment Head
PIVO PRAHA CORPORATION
1331 Angono Street, Makati City 1208

A Filipino chain of restaurants with branches in the U.S. is in search of the following DYNAMIC people for its nationwide expansion program:

FRANCHISE DEVELOPMENT MANAGER (FDM)

- M/F, not more than 35 years old;
- College graduate in Business Management, Marketing, or other related fields; Master's Degree is an advantage;
- Experience in franchising process;
- Familiar in site assessment, feasibility studies and relationship management;
- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint).

FRANCHISING ASSISTANT (FA)

- M/F, not more than 28 years old;
- College graduate in Mass Comm, Marketing, or other related fields;
- Experience in handling telephone, walk-in, and Internet inquiries;
- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Desktop Publishing, etc.);
- Familiar with database management.

Interested parties may send their application letter with their resumé, photocopy of transcript of records, and I.D. photo to:

The Human Resources Manager
Box No. KA-008-01ME
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Trinity Building, #636 T.M. Kalaw Street
Ermita, Manila
E-mail: jm1@inquirer.com.ph
(Subject: KAL-ME)

MACO Kitchen

MACO Furniture Store

MC Home Builders Depot
EDSA cor. Pasong Tamo
Makati City

Now Hiring for its EXPANSION!
In neeed of the following:

(1) Assistant Manager

With the following qualifications:

- Graduate of Management course
- Male/Female
- 30 years old and above
- With at least 5 years supervisory experience in handling operations and sales people
- Good in oral and written communication
- Computer literate
- With valid driver's license
- Good references

(1) Delivery Supervisor

With the following qualifications:

- Management Graduate
- Male/Female—30 years old and above
- With valid driver's license
- With at least 3 years experience in inventory control and delivery procedures
- Good in oral and written communication
- Can work independently
- Knowledge in computer
- Good references

(1) Store/Sales Person

With the following qualifications:

- Graduate of any course
- With at least 3 years selling experience with good track record
- 25 to 30 years old
- Male/Female
- Good in oral and written communication
- Can work independently
- With pleasing personality
- Good references

Please apply in person at **MC Home Builders Depot, EDSA cor. Pasong Tamo, Makati City** bring the following Resumé (CV), copy of Transcript of Records, 2-2x2 colored pictures. Look for the **HRD.**

Century Park Hotel
AN ANA HOTEL

Is in need of:

ACCOUNT MANAGERS

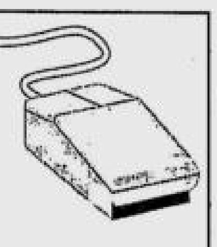
- Female, not more than 24 years old and at least 5'4"
- Personable, neat and aggressive
- College graduate preferably in Marketing/Hotel and Restaurant Management
- Knowledgeable in hotel sales operations or other travel related firms

POOL & RECREATION MANAGER

- College graduate
- At least three (3) years work experience
- Neat, personable and honest
- Written and verbal facility
- Knowledgeable in the operation of the pool and recreation area
- Ability to plan and establish marketing actions and activities to maximize revenue
- Knowledgeable in sports events and other social and fitness activities for guest and pool members

QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT PERSONALLY THEIR RESUMÉ WITH A RECENT 2X2 COLORED PHOTO AND CERTIFICATES IF ANY, AT:

CENTURY PARK HOTEL
599 P. Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila #1004
or
Email: century@globe.com.ph



Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

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JOBMarket
ONLINE

Read it every Sunday with the Philippine Daily Inquirer and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

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Stores Specialists, Inc.

Urgently needs...

BEAUTY CONSULTANTS/ MAKE-UP ARTISTS (BC/MA-001)

- Female, between 21-28 years old
- Graduate of any 4-year Business-related course
- At least 5'2" in height with pleasing personality and clear complexion
- Preferably with skin care experience/Cosmetology background
- Good in oral communication skills

Interested applicants may submit their comprehensive resumé and recent 2x2 photo to:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Personnel Department
4th floor Midland Buendia Bldg.,
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Please indicate position codes.

MANAGERIAL

Are you really brilliant, ambitious, and impatient for a fruitful career in sales and marketing?
Do you have the passion for excellence, are customer-driven, have the power to lead, and are results-oriented?
Then

PFIZER needs YOU!!!

Professional Healthcare Representatives

We are the world's #1 Pharmaceutical Company. Coming from the merger of two giant pharmaceutical companies, PFIZER, INC. & WARNER LAMBERT. Our products represent advances in medicine - the world's most prescribed antihypertensive, the world's #1 anti-hyperlipidemia product, #1 anti-inflammatory drug. Our products for Central Nervous System disorders and anti-infectives are mostly the drug of choice. And who does not know our anti-Erectile Dysfunction drug?

Next year, we are launching major breakthrough products that will give mankind unmatched healthcare and quality of life. These are respiratory, anti-inflammatory, and CNS products. We have more products in the pipeline that we will be launching in the next 5 years.

What it takes:

A bachelor's degree

excellent oral & written communication; proven highfliers who love competing & winning in ethical ways; highly-intelligent people who are at ease with both the science & the arts; with strong sense of urgency in attending to customer needs

Valid driver's license - because our PHRs are motorized

Willingness and readiness to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines

The rewards:

We are a top-tier payer to match the qualifications of the PHRs we are looking for. Our PHRs are motorized. We have a Career Development Plan that takes care of our human resources; sales and travel incentives that are truly motivating. Of course, the compensation and benefits package is one of the best in the industry.

We need future leaders

Who will communicate how our unique products offer true value to physicians & patients. We are building the industry's best corps of medical communicators & marketing people to propel our in-line products to market leadership in the Philippines & ensure the successful launches of the future blockbusters until the year 2005.

Qualified candidates from ***Metro Manila*** *and nearby provinces may submit their updated resume', most recent 2x2 picture and a copy of Transcript of Records* ***not later than August 31, 2001 c/o:***

Pfizer, Inc.
Employee Resources Division
23/F Ayala Life-FGU Center
6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
e-mail: Fe.R.Legaspi@pfizer.com

For provincial applicants, candidates must apply in person with their updated resume' most recent 2x2 picture and copy of Transcript of Records on the following schedules:

September 17, 2001, Davao City
Marco Polo Hotel
Freedom Park, cor Claro M. Reco Ave.
Davao City

September 20, 2001, Cagayan de Oro City
Philtown Hotel
Makahambus St., Cagayan de Oro City

September 24, 2001, Cebu City
Marriot Hotel, Ayala Center
Cebu City

September 27, 2001, Iloilo
Days Hotel, Iloilo City

October 1, 2001, Bicol
Casa Blanca Hotel
Peñaranda St., Legaspi City

October 4, 2001 - Baguio City
El Cielito Inn
#50 North Drive, Engineers' Hill
Baguio City

Pfizer

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INFORMATICS
COMPUTER INSTITUTE

We are a global leader in IT training and educational services with strong business presence in 33 countries. Our vision and customer orientation have further strengthened our reach that we are now operating more than 383 training and education centers worldwide.

Partnering with people who see the future has enabled us to offer the most up-to-date quality IT courses and programs. Many of our centers are appointed Authorized Training Education Centers by Novell, SUN Microsystems, Microsoft, Adobe, Compaq, IBM OS/2, Lotus, Autodesk, Celdera and Ericsson. Our university partners include University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate, University of Oxford Delegacy of Local Examinations, RMIT University, University of Sydney, University of Portsmouth, University of London, University of Wales, and Oxford Brookes University.

As we build our business, we create opportunities for those who believe the future. I hope you will assist us in identifying high potential candidates by giving us a list of your best graduates. Below is a list of our current opportunities.

Center Managers

Late 20's - Mid 30's (Male/Female)
Strong sales orientation
Good leadership and people-handling skills
Excellent communication skills
Pleasing personality
I.T. skills an advantage
At least 2 years experience in Marketing

Lecturers

22-32 years old (Male/Female)
Computer Science or
Computer Engineering graduate
Excellent communication skills

Course Consultants

21-25 years old (Male/Female)
Pleasing personality
Sales or Marketing background
Excellent communication skills
Knowledgeable in Desktop Publishing

Services Officer

21-25 years old (Female)
Excellent communication skills
Computer literate
Pleasing personality
Graduate of any business course
Basic knowledge on Desktop Publishing
Software

Technician

18-25 years old (Male)
At least 2nd year College (undergrad.)
Technical know how is preferred
Computer literate
Loves networking gaming

Accountants

21-30 years old (Female)
Accounting Graduate or CPA is preferred
Computer proficiency an advantage

Cambridge Child Development Center - a subsidiary of ***Informatics*** is looking for a **PRE-SCHOOL TEACHER** w/ the ff: qualifications:

CAMBRIDGE
Child Development Centre

✓ **2 years teaching experience**
✓ **Excellent English**
✓ **Loves children**
✓ **Willing to travel abroad**

FOR OUR NEW CENTERS AT: ROBINSON'S PLACE - MANILA, LIPA-BATANGAS, ANTIPOLO & MAKATI.

If interested, please send a copy of your resumé via email at ysabino@informatics.net.ph, or via fax at 722-9490. Due to the **URGENCY** of the requirements, please apply personally at **2nd Flr. Security Bank Bldg. 228 Ortigas Avenue, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila or may call at 727-0401 local 210/211**.

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AVIS RENT A CAR

The Only ISO 9002 Certified Car Rental in the Philippines
THE WORLD LEADER IN THE CAR RENTAL INDUSTRY INVITES HIGHLY COMPETENT INDIVIDUALS TO EXPLORE EXCELLENT CAREER OPPORTUNITIES AS

CORPLAN SUPERVISOR

Male / Female, not more than 35 years old Preferably with experience in MIS/Corporate Planning. The candidate shall provide support in the management of financial and operational MIS, institutionalization of corporate system, Operations and Financial Planning.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Female, not more than 28 years old, with a degree in Marketing, Management or Mass Communication. Preferably experienced in account management or sales and marketing activities for at least one year. Must have good oral and written communication skills. Computer literate. The aspirant shall be responsible for field sales and management of corporate accounts

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT

Male / Female, graduate of BS in Accountancy. Preferably CPA, highly computer literate. Must have at least 2 years of experience (audit background is an advantage). Must have excellent analytical skills and can work under extreme pressure.

RENTAL SALES AGENT

Male / Female, not more than 25 years old and a college graduate. He / She must be interested in sales and willing to work in various shifts. Skill in driving is an advantage.

HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT

Female, not more than 28 years old, and a graduate in Psychology. Should have experience in HR work for at least one year. She must be computer literate and proficient in oral and written communications

JUNIOR AUDITOR

Male, at least 22 yrs. old, computer literate, graduate of BSC/BSBA major in Accounting. He must have at least 1 year of work related experience, good written and oral communication skills and must be familiar in writing audit reports

Interested applicants are requested to submit their resume, & recent 2x2 picture at:
Human Resources Department
G & S Transport Corporation (AVIS Rent A Car)
45 Libertad St., Mandaluyong City
Fax no. 718-4062 / 533-0785 e-mail address: hrd_avis@avis.com.ph

Only those who pass initial screening will be called for interview.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

- Graduate of Psychology or Behavioral Science
- At least 2 years related experience
- Knowledge of basic computer/office software operation

*Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé and 1x1 ID photo on or before **Friday, August 31, 2001** to:*

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Sts.,
Makati City
E-mail: **recruitment@inquirer.com.ph**

Maunsell

MAUNSELL PHILS., INC. has been successful in securing major domestic and international design projects and is urgently looking to expand its Makati design office.

We seek highly motivated individuals who wish to be involved in multimillion dollar projects for the following positions:

☐ **SENIOR STRUCTURAL ENGINEER**

- minimum of seven (7) cumulative years of experience in structural engineering design work for industrial type steel buildings.
- had undertaken a three dimensional analysis design of steel structures.
- knowledgeable in the use of SPACE GAS, STRAND, ETABS, or STAAD softwares and local and international codes and standards.
- can develop design criteria, specifications and drawings to meet project requirement.
- can provide construction support and sites visits to solve engineering problems.
- can coordinate engineering effort with other disciplines.
- can monitor progress to ensure conformance to project schedule and budget.
- must be willing to start in 2 – 4 weeks time.

Mail application letter, comprehensive resume, employment or training certificates, academic transcript not later than 05 September 2001 to the address below.

Previous applicants for these position need not apply.

Personnel Manager
MAUNSELL PHILS., INC.
11th Floor Ayala Life – FGU Center
6811 Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Email Address: mpi@maunsellphils.com

Your career might only be a click of the mouse away.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOBMarket ONLINE

and visit it online at www.jobmarketonline.com

A network of clinics

is in urgent need of:

- ✓ MEDICAL TECHNOLOGISTS
- ✓ CHEMISTS
- ✓ PHARMACISTS

The candidates we are looking for must be licensed, graduates of reputable schools, and with some valuable experience in hospitals or clinics. We prefer candidates between the ages of 24-35. Patience, diligence, and ability to effectively handle interactions with all kinds of people are a must. Metro Manila and Provincial assignments are available.

Please send a comprehensive resume with picture to:

Human Resources Department
P.O. Box 13690
Ortigas Central Post Office, Pasig City
By email : netclinic@eudoramail.com
or netclinic@lycos.com
By fax: 633-2023

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

- College graduate preferably major in Mass Communications or Marketing
- Knowledge in MS Word, Pagemaker
- Proofreading Skills, Layouting Skills, Encoding Skills

*Mail your application letter, comprehensive resumé and 1x1 ID photo on or before **Friday, August 31, 2001** to:*

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Ave. (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Sts., Makati City
E-mail: **recruitment@inquirer.com.ph**

ONE OF THE WORLD'S LARGEST INTERNATIONAL BANKS

is inviting applications for the following positions:

❶ BUSINESS PROMOTIONS OFFICER

- ☑ Between 25 and 32 years old
- ☑ Must be Business, Accountancy or Economic graduate
- ☑ Preferably a CPA
- ☑ At least 3 years work experience in a bank on the above field

❷ CREDIT OR MARKETING STAFF

- ☑ Business, Accountancy or Economics graduate
- ☑ Preferably a CPA
- ☑ Has an aptitude in Marketing, Business Promotion or Accountancy
- ☑ Not over 25 years old, with or without work experience

Interested applicants may please send their resumé to:

CODE69
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Ground Floor, Atrium Building
Makati Avenue, Makati City

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Job Description

We are currently looking for an Executive Assistant to one of our consultants. General clerical and office duties will be required. The successful applicant will at times be required to accompany principal to client meetings but for the most part will be reporting for work at principal's home in Quezon City. Contract commences second week of September, hence, candidate must be available to work by then. Starting salary is Php 10,000.00; increase is negotiable after 6 months of commendable performance.

Minimum Requirements:

- EXCELLENT spoken and written English
- Steeped in CUSTOMER/CLIENT SERVICE; (No clock watchers, please)
- Adeptness in working with MSWORD, EXCEL, POWERPOINT, INTERNET
- Single
- Minimum of one year CONTINUOUS working experience; (No fresh graduates please)
- University degree or better
- Male or female
- 21 years old or older
- Good writing skills

How do I apply?

Send us your CV with photo, EXPECTED SALARY and three verifiable references to Snail Mail: MCPO 4678 Makati City
Email: cmaclang@hotmail.com
Applications WITHOUT the above-mentioned particulars will not be entertained.

CHATEAU 1771

Group of Restaurants

Invites applicants for its expansion program

RESTAURANT OPERATIONS MANAGERS
College graduate, preferably of HRM course, at least 2 years experience as restaurant manager or at least 3 years experience as an assistant manager in a fine-dining restaurant.

RESTAURANT SERVICE MANAGERS
College graduate, preferably of HRM course, at least 2 years experience as an assistant manager or 3 years experience as a senior supervisor in a fine-dining restaurant or 5 years managerial experience in a related field.

FOOD AND BEVERAGE AUDITOR
College graduate, preferably of HRM course, at least 3 years experience in cost control, purchasing and stockroom operations in a supervisory capacity.

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Values in the workplace Part IV

By Ernesto G. Espinosa

(The author is currently the vice president of the Personnel Management Association of the Philippines (PMAP). He is also the assistant vice president, HRD and general affairs of Fujitsu Computer Products Corp. of the Philippines.)

IF you may have noticed, I wrote about a certain value each month. In the past, I have written 3 articles on Values in the Workplace, collectively talking about acceptable and unacceptable norms of behavior in the workplace. I am back with Part IV. I invite readers to share with me some of your experiences in your respective companies so that I can write about them. Please feel free to e-mail me.

Changing air conditioner temperature without saying a word

In our Company, there are stand-alone air conditioners inside offices. The trouble with this type of air conditioners is that, unlike the centralized system of air conditioning, the air blown is usually uneven. Naturally, there are employees in the room who feel cold and there are other employees who feel warm.

The problem most of the time is that I find myself being the recipient of cold air blown my way because there are employees who direct all the vents to my side and adjust the thermostat to its maximum cold level. And when I try to find out who is responsible, nobody knows and nobody wants to admit.

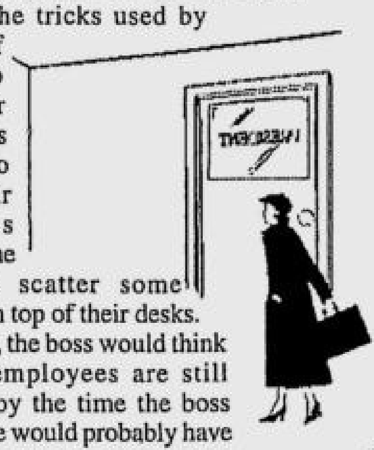
Or there are instances when employees inside the canteen who feel cold decide to totally shut off the air conditioner, leaving some employees, who may be more tolerant of a cold temperature, perspiring. These are just some examples of the lack of concern for the welfare of other employees which also border on selfishness in the workplace.

Prolonged stay in the comfort room before knock off time

Have you observed that there are some employees who go to the comfort room 15 minutes before the knock off time in order to freshen up? They either brush their teeth, wash their face or comb their hair to prepare for their "date". Again, this is lack of concern but this time, for the Company. Speaking of productivity, we eventually discover that so much man hours are lost if we add all the time spent by employees inside the comfort room before departure time.

Leaving the computer open

One of the tricks used by employees if they want to leave their work areas unnoticed is to leave their computers open and at the same time, scatter some documents on top of their desks.



Naturally, the boss would think that these employees are still around and by the time the boss goes home, he would probably have the impression that such employees are just in other areas coordinating with other departments.

Of course, the wiser boss would ask if these employees are still around before he goes home.

Use of common printers

There are some employees who share common printers. The common printer is situated in the working area of the main computer user. In order to economize, the company does not provide one computer printer per employee. The most common problem here is when one of the employees using the computer printer attempts to print a document by clicking the print mode without first looking at the printer (far from him) if it has sufficient paper or if another employee replaced the plain paper with letterhead.

Cleaning up table before dishing out

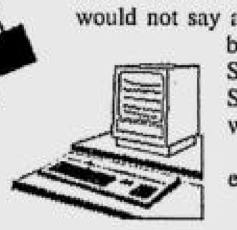
At the canteen, one will find that tables left by employees have soft drink or soup spills, rice or noodles sticking on the tables, etc. One will wonder why this happens when each employee uses a tray to absorb all the spillage. Maybe, majority of the employees think that it is the business of the janitors to clean the tables. Without sounding biased, one will always observe that even if spills happen accidentally, a Japanese will always try to clean the table before he leaves it. This, I believe, is SOP among the Japanese.

Use and misuse of ash trays

Inside the smoking rooms, one will find cigarette ash lying on the floor. Why? Because some employees do not seem to care if they tap their cigarettes thereby allowing the cigarette ash to fall directly on the floor, despite the presence of ash trays everywhere.

Answering the phone without saying anything

"May I please talk to Mr. Santos," the caller politely asks. Then the employee who answered the phone would not say anything. One will just hear in the background that he is calling Mr. Santos. Not a word. "Can I tell Mr. Santos who is calling? Can you please wait for a moment?"



It is somewhat frustrating to encounter such kind of employee.

Riding in the shuttle bus

Most companies in Laguna and Cavite provide their employees with shuttle bus services so that they can be transported to and from the plant.

There are of course schedules to follow like the first bus departs at this time, the second bus departs 15 minutes later, the third bus departs 30 minutes later, and so on. The common problem encountered here is when the first, second and third shuttle buses are not filled to capacity. This is costly on the part of the company because they are not able to maximize the use of the shuttle buses.

The main reason why some shuttle buses are not filled to capacity is that employees choose the shuttle buses with stereos, curtains and even handsome drivers. This is a nightmare for administration personnel because they have to ensure that employees are not selective of the buses that they ride but more importantly, be guided by the first arrive (at the terminal), first depart rule.

As I said in the past, it will not harm if we try to examine ourselves and check whether or not we embrace some of the good values pointed out or avoid the bad ones. For if we do, good values strengthen our character and make us better individuals.

Reactions can be made at **ernie@fcpp.fujitsu.co.jp**

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INQUIRER
MAGAZINE

August 26, 2001
Volume 14 No. 25

Karylle Tatlonghari

Singing Her Own Song

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REAL CONCERNED ARTISTS

AS ONE of the artists who went to Mehan Garden to convince Mayor Lito Atienza not to convert the historical and ecological center of Manila into a city college and bus terminal ("Picnic for Mother Earth," **SIM**, 1 July 2001), I would like to clarify that the affair was not led by the Concerned Artists of the Philippines.

The "picnic" was led by concerned artists, indeed, but they call themselves the Artists for the Environment, which is a distinct organization from the CAP. The other groups and individuals who helped organize the affair were Mother Earth, Zero Waste Recycling Movement of the Philippines Foundation Inc., National Artists such as Lucio San Pedro, F. Sionil Jose and Lucresia Kasilag, other known artists as also cited in the article, and unknown ones like myself. The coverage was incorrect because the subtitle highlighted the Concerned Artists of the Philippines as an organization and not as a generic name. It is unfair for the environmentalist-artists organizations that participated in this historical gathering and braved the heat and pollution.

I am aware that the CAP as an organization is not so much into environmental stuff. I recall there were directors and other movie personalities in defense of the soft porn movie "Live Show" and who claimed they were CAP. In the first place, does CAP still exist? After film director Marilou Diaz-Abaya exposed film directors' "exploitation" of actors and actresses, nothing was heard anymore from the directors and other personalities defending "Live Show" and who were identified as CAP members.

I miss the days of directors Lino Brocka and Ishmael Bernal, when true artists were its members — and mind you, they were pro-environment.

So having CAP hug the whole subtitle of the article has given the wrong impression that this organization still exists. Thanks a lot for your coverage.

ALEJANDRO LUNA (guitarist/vocalist)
4456-A Kabigting St.
San Francisco Del Monte, QC

JUST DO IT

To M. Carandang ("Confessions of A Graduate School Slacker," First Person, SIM, 22 July 2001): I don't have any idea how your thesis is doing by now, but I salute your "awakening." Your realization – I don't call it rationalization or sour-graping – is a light at the end of the tunnel. Glad you saw the light. You might as well walk through it. Life is too short for doing things you're not even sure you want. It's about doing what makes you happy. Something you gladly stay up late at night or enthusiastically jump out of bed for in the morning. Just do it. Be happy.

ANGEL FERNANDEZ JR.
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Cover Story page 6

The Cover Image Sunshiny Karylle Tatlonghari is generating a buzz and winning praise as the newest "It" girl in town
Photograph by Mike Alquinto

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People of the Faith

by Peachy E. Yamsuan

photographs by Noli Yamsuan

With his recent appointment as Bishop, Msgr. Socrates B. Villegas should have enough room to prove himself—and go beyond his formidable reputation as the Power Behind the Throne of Jaime Cardinal Sin.

From the Shadow of Sin

A MONTH AFTER SOCRATES B. VILLEGAS WAS ORDAINED A PRIEST IN 1985, HE TRAVELED TO THE VATICAN WITH HIS ARCHBISHOP JAIME L. CARDINAL SIN ON A PONTIFICAL VISIT. SEEING THE YOUNG PRIEST, ONE CARDINAL JOSTLED SIN: "THIS IS YOUR SECRETARY? YOU ALLOW THIS YOUNG MAN TO CONTROL YOU?"

Fr. Soc would be by the Cardinal's side through the most turbulent and exciting times of the nation's history

To observers of recent political events, the joke would prove almost prophetic. Villegas figured prominently during the popular Edsa 2 uprising, when, as Cardinal Sin's spokesman, he gave civil society groups the controversial order to halt their march to Mendiola. During the days before the violent May 1 siege of Malacañang by Estrada loyalists, Villegas was also quoted as lamenting the disrespect allegedly shown by the masses to his parish church when they camped out and defaced the Edsa Shrine. Such concerns, some quarters objected, stressed even more the wide gap between the institutional church and its flock.

It's a perception that comes with the job, one that Villegas, who graduated at the top of his class at the San Carlos Seminary, did not exactly relish. The post of personal secretary he viewed as a duty to be performed. Like other newly ordained priests, he wanted to plunge right away into pastoral work. But he was told that it could just be a transition phase, and that after two years he might be sent abroad for further studies or be assigned to a parish. The transition never transpired, and almost 16 years after, he still holds the position of secretary to the most powerful prelate in the country. But this time, the young priest has metamorphosed into a young bishop.

On July 25, the feast of St. James the apostle, Pope John Paul II appointed 40-year-old Msgr. Socrates B. Villegas as bishop, an auxiliary in the Archdiocese of Manila. Following the tradition of the Church, he was given the title of titular bishop of Nona (a diocese that had existed in ancient Croatia). The appointment hardly surprised people in church circles who thought that it would only be a matter of time before Cardinal's Sin's alter ego would be named bishop. A priest once observed that Fr. Soc was like good wine that only needed to be aged to bring out its full flavor. But while the posting might have been inevitable for Fr. Soc, who is certainly most qualified to become a bishop, it is not something that he expected at this time.

Villegas: In search of "authentic priesthood"

"I was disoriented and I could not answer (the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Antonio Franco) immediately," he recalls on hearing the news of his appointment. "I prayed long over it and after some struggle, I took it as God's invitation to love more."

One of his apprehensions about accepting the appointment was his age. 'I'm only 15 years a priest and 40 years old. I was made a secretary (to the Archbishop) too young, right after my ordination. My classmates (in the seminary) would say that I was never given the chance to be a young priest and enjoy the excitement of baptisms and weddings." To him, all that is part of the sacrifice of the priesthood. "And where the spirit of sacrifice is, there is authentic priesthood."

Fr. Soc's way with words has made him an ideal preacher and speaker who comes across as charismatic, warm, intelligent and confident. He is adept at both oral and written communication, skills honed early in his simple life in the small town of Pateros, Rizal. The youngest son of Emiliano Villegas and Norma Jacinta Buenaventura, both government workers, Soc, like his two elder siblings, Willie (a Management Engineer based in Canada) and Puri (an accountant now living in the United States), was academically inclined and excelled in school.

Fr. Soc recalls that in grade school, teachers would often call on him to emcee school programs. He graduated valedictorian in the elementary grades but frail health prevented him from pursuing a scholarship at the Manila Science High School. For a year he had to study at the Pateros high school, only moving to Letran College on his sophomore year. After graduation from high school he wanted to enter the monastery to be a monk, but the monastics would not accept him. So he did the next best thing and applied at San Carlos Seminary, even if he had already passed the Ateneo college admission test.

"I thought of just biding my time there so that by the time I reach the age of admission for the Trappists, I would have studied some theology and philosophy," Fr. Soc says. In the seminary, however, his formators kept asking him to delay and postpone his plans to enter the monastery. "I just kept postponing (my entering the monastery) until I reached ordination," he recounts.

Cardinal Sin ordained Fr. Soc to the priesthood on October 4, 1985. On that day he was also appointed the archbishop's personal secretary. Fr. Soc would be by the Cardinal's side through the most turbulent and exciting times of the nation's history. His early stint as secretary would also be the time the Cardinal went on historic trips abroad. Fr. Soc accompanied the Cardinal on his trail-blazing trips to China and Russia (including Lithuania) in 1987, to Czechoslova-

To page 5

Little Lives

by Amee R. Enriquez

This year, the country's premiere bank turns 150 years old. Meet some employees for whom the profession has crossed generations – and has become much more than just a job

Banking on Family Ties

THE DIFFERENCE IN AGE IS ROUGHLY A QUARTER OF A CENTURY BETWEEN ROLANDO DE LA CRUZ, 51, AND HIS DAUGHTER JOANNE, 24; POLICARPIO ESTRELLA, 50, AND HIS SON JOSEPH, 23; AND RODOLFO CARESMA, 51, AND HIS DAUGHTER LILIBETH, 25. ALL OF THEM HAVE ONE THING IN COMMON: THEY ALL WORK FOR THE SAME COMPANY, THE BANK OF THE PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Rolando de la Cruz comes across as a serious, no-nonsense person, but Joanne, who is talkative and outgoing, knows better. Her dad loves to tell corny jokes. In fact, she looks forward to going home to San Pablo, Laguna, when he never fails to greet her with, *"Kumusta na ang maganda kong anak?"*

Father and daughter like to go to the mall and eat out with the family, which includes Rolando's two grandchildren by his eldest son, Rafael. They rarely disagree. "Whatever daddy says, I just answer, 'Yes, boss,'" Joanne quips.

Rolando has been with BPI for close to 30 years now; it was his first job. After finishing accounting and auditing at the San Beda College and passing the accounting board exam, he started as a rank and file employee of People's Bank, which was acquired by BPI in 1974. He slowly rose up the corporate ladder to become assistant vice president in 1989.

For her part, Joanne had been exposed early to people in the banking sector. That influenced her decision to become a banker after earning a degree in Management Economics from Ateneo de Manila.

She initially worked for another bank but quit because she felt she wasn't being trained very well. She was about to join a manufacturing company's sales staff, but her father advised her to wait for the result of her application with BPI.

Ironically, it was her two siblings, Rafael and Marian, who studied under BPI Foundation's college scholarship program for academically qualified children of bank employees. She failed to take the scholarship exam because her dad forgot to enlist her, and yet it was she who followed in his footsteps.

Father and daughter admit they enjoy their work. Joanne appreciates the exposure to fields like telecommunications and the Internet because of her job as assistant manager at the Call Center. Rolando acknowledges that the bank motivates and recognizes good performance.

The physical similarity between Policarpio "Pol" Estrella and Joseph "Jojo" Estrella is obvious. Both are tall, with lean, lanky body frames and dark, piercing eyes. And they have the same mannerisms; both are quiet and unassuming, and when they speak, it is in the same gentle, soft-spoken manner.

Jojo was the carefree type who was always asking for an extension of his curfew hours when he was still studying at San Beda College. Father and son pretty much get along, enjoying the same television programs and movies. Like most warm-blooded Filipino males, basketball is their favorite sport. They also share a keen interest in cars.

Together at work: Lilibeth and Rodolfo Caresma

Pol is currently assigned as assistant manager of BPI Family Bank in San Juan. His career as a banker started a year after his son, Jojo, was born, in March 1978. Twenty years later, Jojo was hired as a phone banking specialist for the newly organized BPI Call Center, and was promoted to assistant manager after two years. Jojo didn't intentionally set out to get a job in the same company where his father worked; surprisingly, he was just a walk-in applicant.

Photographs by Mandy Navasero

Banking on generations: Rolando and Joanne dela Cruz (left); Joseph and Policarpio Estrella

Since both of them are assistant managers in the same bank, do father and son experience professional rivalry? The answer is negative.

"I'm still the younger one in the family, and whatever title or position I have is left at the office. Respect for the elders, especially for parents, is observed in our family," Jojo explains. As for Pol, he's just happy his son is not just an ordinary employee. "I'm very proud of him," Pol says. "He achieved in only three years what took me a long time."

Rodolfo Caresma and his daughter Lilibeth got to work for the same bank by sheer coincidence. After earning a bachelor's degree in biology magna cum laude from Ateneo de Cagayan, Lilibeth received the BPI Science Award, yearly recognition given to students who excel in their respective fields of study.

Lilibeth thought of becoming a doctor. But she was having second thoughts, so she took the job offer that came with the recognition. "I was offered to join the Officership Training Program of BPI as part of the award," she explains. "I joined the bank hoping that the experience would help me figure out what I really wanted to do."

At that time, Rodolfo was assistant vice president for Far East Bank and Trust Company, in charge of operations for Northern Mindanao. When BPI merged with Far East last year, father and daughter found themselves working for the same bank.

It was a twist of fate that proved advantageous, but more so for the daughter. As assistant manager of the Davao Business Center, Lilibeth says she gets the better deal because she has a father to guide her.

But there's a downside. "People might think that I'm getting my father to pull rank to advance my career," she explains. "To avoid giving that impression, I act professionally and do my work independent of him."

Father and daughter also share a passion for learning. Both are in the process of earning their masters in Business Administration, Rodolfo from Ateneo de Cagayan, Lilibeth from Ateneo de Davao.

In an age when moving from one job to another is the norm, the country's oldest bank can certainly count employee loyalty among its greatest strengths.

In behalf of Sin: The Cardinal and his former personal secretary

Informal communion: Fr. Soc with beneficiaries of the Edsa Shrine's outreach program

PEOPLE OF THE FAITH...from page 3

kia, Poland and many times to Rome and the United States. He went with the Cardinal on his pilgrimages to Fatima, to Our Lady of Guadalupe in Mexico, and to other Marian shrines.

In 1989, Fr. Soc was appointed rector of the Edsa Shrine, the church dedicated to Mary Queen of Peace, which also serves as a monument of the first People Power revolution of February 1986. Many viewed the appointment as one more indicator of the Cardinal's confidence in him, the Shrine being a symbol of the Church's active participation in the restoration of democracy in the country.

It might be said that Fr. Soc blossomed at the Edsa Shrine. Here all his latent talents started to unfold. What had been modestly envisioned as a monument of stone to house the permanent symbols of the Philippines' unique People Power revolution became a thriving community of church people. He first attracted the people to the Shrine through his inspiring homilies and the way he celebrates the Mass to make it a truly prayerful experience for the people. His homilies at the Shrine have been recorded in five books published by Anvil Publishing, the first time that a commercial publishing house successfully launched and marketed a religious book.

In time the Cardinal's secretary would be spending more time at the Shrine, where, after his Mass, people often line up to see him or seek counseling. Those who seek his counsel and spiritual direction come from all strata of society. From former President Corazon Aquino to the salesgirl at the nearby malls; from the elite of Forbes Park and Corinthian Gardens to the squatters of Tramo. Many started to enlist as Shrine volunteers, asking him for ways they could serve the church. The Shrine now has 20 groups involved in various services.

Indeed, from all indications, Bishop-elect Soc Villegas could easily follow the illustrious, albeit controversial foot steps of his Archbishop, whom he has served well for the past decade and a half. And yet his own merits should tell us that this new bishop is intent on carving his own unique path.

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MEMBER PANA Truth in Advertising

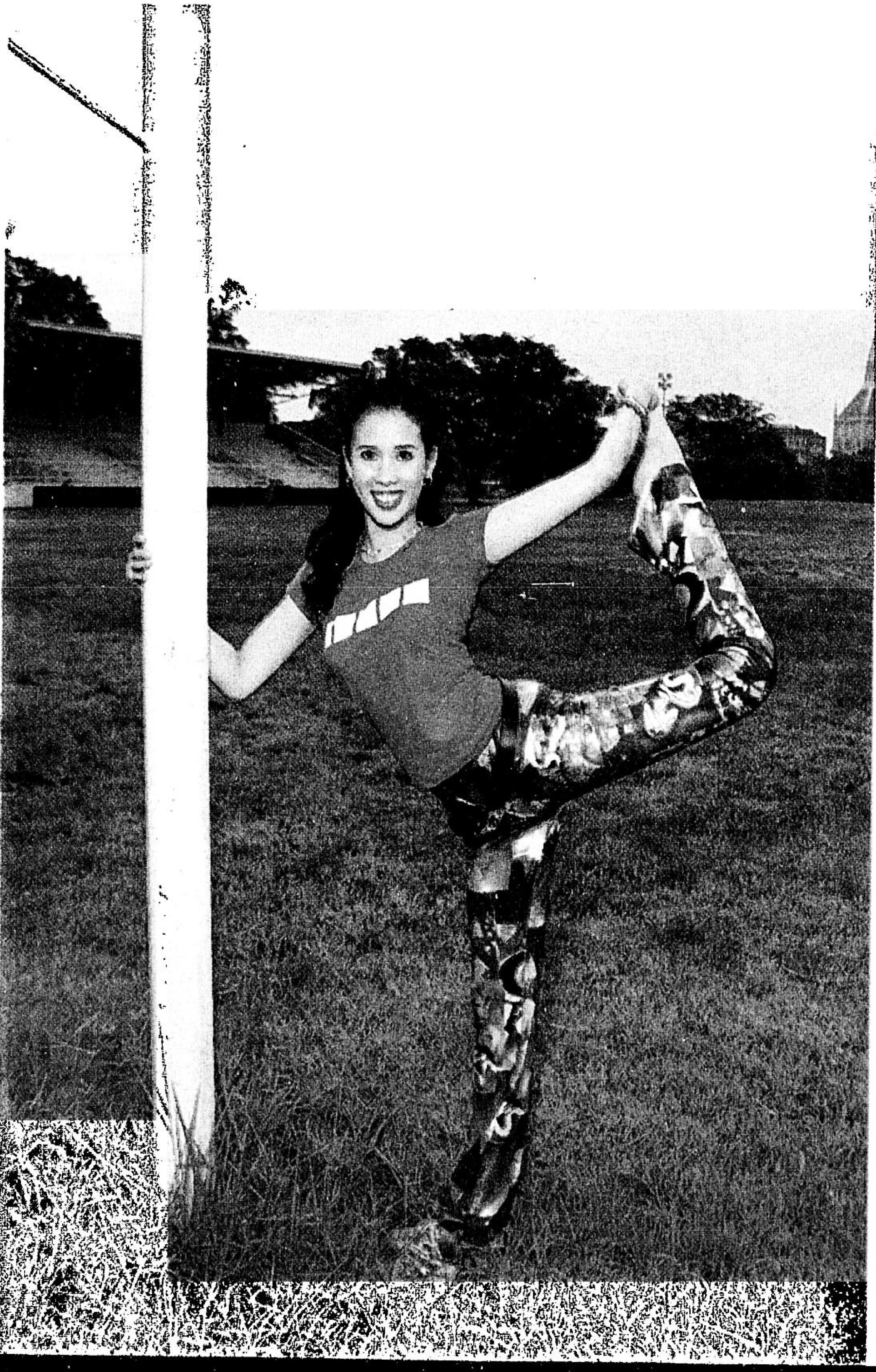
Cover Story

by Eric S. Caruncho

photographs by Mike Alquinto

Singing was last on the list of her priorities but then who can deny one's genes? Certainly not Zsa Zsa Padilla's daughter.

Music in the Blood



IN TODAY'S FIZZY DANCE POP SWEEPSTAKES, KARYLLE TATLONGHARI IS CHRISTINA AGUILERA TO CRIS VILLONGCO'S BRITNEY SPEARS: NEWER, FOXIER AND, ARGUABLY, BETTER. (OF COURSE, BETTER IS A LOADED WORD. WHAT EXACTLY IS BETTER IN FIZZY DANCE POP TERMS? BETTER SOUNDING? BETTER DANCING? BETTER LOOKING?)

More to the point, Karylle's first album, "Time To Shine," is her record label's latest bid to corner the crucial teenybopper market. Judging from the music video for the carrier single, "Can't Live Without You," one of the slicker products to come off the video assembly line in recent memory, a serious bid it is, too. Oozing high production values and a lot of sweat, the video shows Karylle's vocal and terpsichorean prowess to good effect.

Karylle also shot a second video, coming soon to your favorite music video channel, with German teen idol, one-man boy band and shampoo model Gil who is best known for his waist-long tresses. The duet, "Calling You," just might be the ticket to bigger and better things for the 20-year-old singer. Who knows? Maybe it might even give her a toehold on the ever-elusive international market. Karylle also managed to snag the Awit Award for Best New Artist shortly after making her public debut as the Princess in the local production of the musical "The Little Mermaid." Not bad for someone who's only been singing professionally a year.

Of course, none of this should come a surprise, considering Karylle's pedigree: her mother is Zsa Zsa Padilla.

Karylle started singing in grade school choirs. By the time she reached high school, she was good enough to be chosen for the solo spots. Friends even asked her to sing at their debuts. "People would tell me, 'You're going to be a singer someday,' but although it was clear to everyone else, it wasn't clear to me," recalls Karylle, whose name means "the beloved" in Welsh, according to her mother, who chose it.

"I was always in denial about it. I would always associate singing with everything bad that happened to us. I always thought it was connected, somehow," she adds. Karylle is talking about her parents' messy and very public separation, which happened when she was about 6 years old, after Zsa Zsa fell for comedy king Dolphy. Although she was too young to fully comprehend what was happening at the time, she wasn't too young to sense the emotional turmoil and to feel the shadow it cast on her childhood.

"When I look at it now, I think that even as a kid, I knew from watching TV that if people had broken families, they would end up as drug addicts, or drunks, or doing something really bad to mess up their lives," she recalls. "So I did the exact opposite. I did well at school. I tried not to do anything bad. It would have been such an easy trap to

"I feel more free about expressing myself"

A gem onstage: as Princess Sapphire to Jeff Arcilla's Prince Christian in "The Little Mermaid"

fall into and to use 'it's because my parents are separated' as an excuse. But I knew I wouldn't choose that path, even as a kid."

When Karylle set out to excel, she did so thinking that by doing well in school, she could bring her parents together, even if only temporarily on graduation day. "One of my dreams was to get really high grades so I'd see them together. I worked really hard. I was the valedictorian in grade school. I wanted to see us complete there on stage."

For much of her youth, Karylle remained ambivalent about singing, though not about dancing. A ballet student since the age of three, she eventually stopped in high school for fear of becoming too graceful. Instead she took up jazz and cheerleading. After finishing high school, she enrolled at the Ateneo where she is currently in her last semester as a Management major. Graduating with good grades remains her top priority.

"I felt that I could be a lot of things but being a singer was the last choice on my list," she says. "There wasn't one clear decision but all these things I had been doing led me to it."

After her sterling performance in "The Little Mermaid," talent managers Ronnie and Ida Henares lost no time snatching her up, and hooking her up with Universal Records, which produced "Time To Shine." From her earlier ambivalence about singing, Karylle is now storming the charts with the same persistence she showed in getting high marks in school.

"If you say you like Britney Spears or Christina Aguilera, people will say you're so *baduy* (kitschy). But there are closet boy band fans. *Kunwari* their taste is so high, but deep down they like it, so why not just admit it? It's not deep or artsy music, it's pop and it's enjoyable and I don't see anything wrong with that. You're only young once. The youth and liveliness of someone my age appealed to the people from Universal, so we took that and used it," says Karylle.

In today's pop marketplace, where the video is as important as the record, it was crucial to have the right moves. Karylle started working with choreographer Geleen Eugenio, going to rehearsals weekly. "I could see that I wasn't doing so well, there was no spunk in my dancing. I would practise in front of the mirror just to get everything perfect. Now I really like dancing. I really feel more free expressing myself with my body."

Ironically, pop music and show business which Karylle once blamed for tearing her family apart now seems to have brought mother and daughter closer. After all, now that she has fully embraced her budding career as a rising young pop star, who better to coach her than someone with years of experience? "She's really good in giving tips," says Karylle of her mother. "Not in a preachy manner. You can see her doing it, so you follow by example."

In one of her recent shows, the audience got an unexpected treat when Zsa Zsa went onstage to thank everyone who bought her daughter's record. Afterward she handed Karylle the posters to be autographed for fans.

Although they live apart, Karylle with her dad and Zsa Zsa with daughters Zia and Nicole ("I don't like to call them half-sisters. Sisters are sisters.") she now feels closer to her mother than ever before. "We talk and text a lot," she adds. "One of our bonding sessions is when we're at the parlor getting a hot oil, or when she's having her hair done. She has a mother's intuition; she knows what I'm thinking, she knows what I like."

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TABLE OF MONTHLY PREMIUMS AND BENEFITS

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AGE	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT	LIFE	ACCIDENT
50	P51,120	P102,240	P102,240	P204,480	P153,360	P306,720	P204,480	P408,960	P255,600	P511,200	P306,720	P613,440	P357,840	P715,680	P408,960	P817,920	P460,080	P920,160	P511,200	P1,022,400
51	48,520	97,040	97,040	194,080	145,560	291,120	194,080	388,160	242,600	485,200	291,120	582,240	339,640	679,280	388,160	776,320	436,680	873,360	485,200	970,400
52	45,920	91,840	91,840	183,680	137,760	275,520	183,680	367,360	229,600	459,200	275,520	551,040	321,440	642,880	367,360	734,720	413,280	826,560	459,200	918,400
53	43,320	86,640	86,640	173,280	129,960	259,920	173,280	346,560	216,600	433,200	259,920	519,840	303,240	606,480	346,560	693,120	389,880	779,760	433,200	866,400
54	41,000	82,000	82,000	164,000	123,000	246,000	164,000	328,000	205,000	410,000	246,000	492,000	287,000	574,000	328,000	656,000	369,000	738,000	410,000	820,000
55	38,680	77,360	77,360	154,720	116,040	232,080	154,720	309,440	193,400	386,800	232,080	464,160	270,760	541,520	309,440	618,880	348,120	696,240	386,800	773,600
56	36,620	73,240	73,240	146,480	109,860	219,720	146,480	292,960	183,100	366,200	219,720	439,440	256,340	512,680	292,960	585,920	329,580	659,160	366,200	732,400
57	34,560	69,120	69,120	138,240	103,680	207,360	138,240	276,480	172,800	345,600	207,360	414,720	241,920	483,840	276,480	552,960	311,040	622,080	345,600	691,200
58	32,500	65,000	65,000	130,000	97,500	195,000	130,000	260,000	162,500	325,000	195,000	390,000	227,500	455,000	260,000	520,000	292,500	585,000	325,000	650,000
59	30,700	61,400	61,400	122,800	92,100	184,200	122,800	245,600	153,500	307,000	184,200	368,400	214,900	429,800	245,600	491,200	276,300	552,600	307,000	614,000
60	28,900	57,800	57,800	115,600	86,700	173,400	115,600	231,200	144,500	289,000	173,400	346,800	202,300	404,600	231,200	462,400	260,100	520,200	289,000	578,000
61	27,300	54,600	54,600	109,200	81,900	163,800	109,200	218,400	136,500	273,000	163,800	327,600	191,100	382,200	218,400	436,800	245,700	491,400	273,000	546,000
62	25,700	51,400	51,400	102,800	77,100	154,200	102,800	205,600	128,500	257,000	154,200	308,400	179,900	359,800	205,600	411,200	231,300	462,600	257,000	514,000
63	24,100	48,200	48,200	96,400	72,300	144,600	96,400	192,800	120,500	241,000	144,600	289,200	168,700	337,400	192,800	385,600	216,900	433,800	241,000	482,000
64	22,700	45,400	45,400	90,800	68,100	136,200	90,800	181,600	113,500	227,000	136,200	272,400	158,900	317,800	181,600	363,200	204,300	408,600	227,000	454,000
65	21,300	42,600	42,600	85,200	63,900	127,800	85,200	170,400	106,500	213,000	127,800	255,600	149,100	298,200	170,400	340,800	191,700	383,400	213,000	426,000
66	20,060	40,120	40,120	80,240	60,180	120,360	80,240	160,480	100,300	200,600	120,360	240,720	140,420	280,840	160,480	320,960	180,540	361,080	200,600	401,200
67	18,810	37,620	37,620	75,240	56,430	112,860	75,240	150,480	94,050	188,100	112,860	225,720	131,670	263,340	150,480	300,960	169,290	338,580	188,100	376,200
68	17,560	35,120	35,120	70,240	52,680	105,360	70,240	140,480	87,800	175,600	105,360	210,720	122,920	245,840	140,480	280,960	158,040	316,080	175,600	351,200
69	16,310	32,620	32,620	65,240	48,930	97,860	65,240	130,480	81,550	163,100	97,860	195,720	114,170	228,340	130,480	260,960	146,790	293,580	163,100	326,200
70	15,060	30,120	30,120	60,240	45,180	90,360	60,240	120,480	75,300	150,600	90,360	180,720	105,420	210,840	120,480	240,960	135,540	271,080	150,600	301,200
71	13,860	27,720	27,720	55,440	41,580	83,160	55,440	110,880	69,300	138,600	83,160	166,320	97,020	194,040	110,880	221,760	124,740	249,480	138,600	277,200
72	12,730	25,460	25,460	50,920	38,190	76,380	50,920	101,840	63,650	127,300	76,380	152,760	89,110	178,220	101,840	203,680	114,570	229,140	127,300	254,600
73	11,600	23,200	23,200	46,400	34,800	69,600	46,400	92,800	58,000	116,000	69,600	139,200	81,200	162,400	92,800	185,600	104,400	208,800	116,000	232,000
74	10,600	21,200	21,200	42,400	31,800	63,600	42,400	84,800	53,000	106,000	63,600	127,200	74,200	148,400	84,800	169,600	95,400	190,800	106,000	212,000
75	9,600	19,200	19,200	38,400	28,800	57,600	38,400	76,800	48,000	96,000	57,600	115,200	67,200	134,400	76,800	153,600	86,400	172,800	96,000	192,000

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The Princess and the Footman

"ACTUALLY, I WAS JUST A GLORIFIED SERVANT," LAUGHS ANDREW LANGSTON OF HIS THREE-YEAR STINT WITH ENGLAND'S ROYAL FAMILY. LANGSTON, THE NEW GENERAL MANAGER OF THE HOLIDAY INN RESORT CLARK FIELD HOTEL, WAS ONE OF THE 12 ROYAL HOUSEHOLD FOOTMEN WHO SERVED AT BUCKINGHAM PALACE IN THE EARLY '80S.

The job, recounts Langston, meant handling the day-to-day requirements of the Queen's household. He attended to the Queen, her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh, and other members of the Royal Family, including Prince Charles and Princess Diana. When heads of state or members of royal families from other countries came to visit, it was his duty to brief them on matters of protocol and dress. He also served dinner at state functions at Buckingham Palace or wherever it was that the Royals happened to be, and even when they traveled overseas.

It took him some time to get used to living and working among the Royals, confesses Langston, who worked at Buckingham Palace from 1981 to 1984. Even just trying to find his way around the Palace's more than 600 rooms in four main floors (with mezzanine floors in between) was a challenge. Part of the job also involved setting up dinner for the Royals, whether it was a private dinner for the family or a state dinner for more than 160 people at a time. Every dinner was a major production with gold gilt cutlery and china that might be worth several thousand pounds. The value of one place setting for a royal dinner could pay half of the country's foreign debt, chortles Angelo Songco, Holiday Inn's PR manager, who joined the interview.

> *When heads of state or members of royal families from other countries came to visit, it was his duty to brief them on matters of protocol and dress*

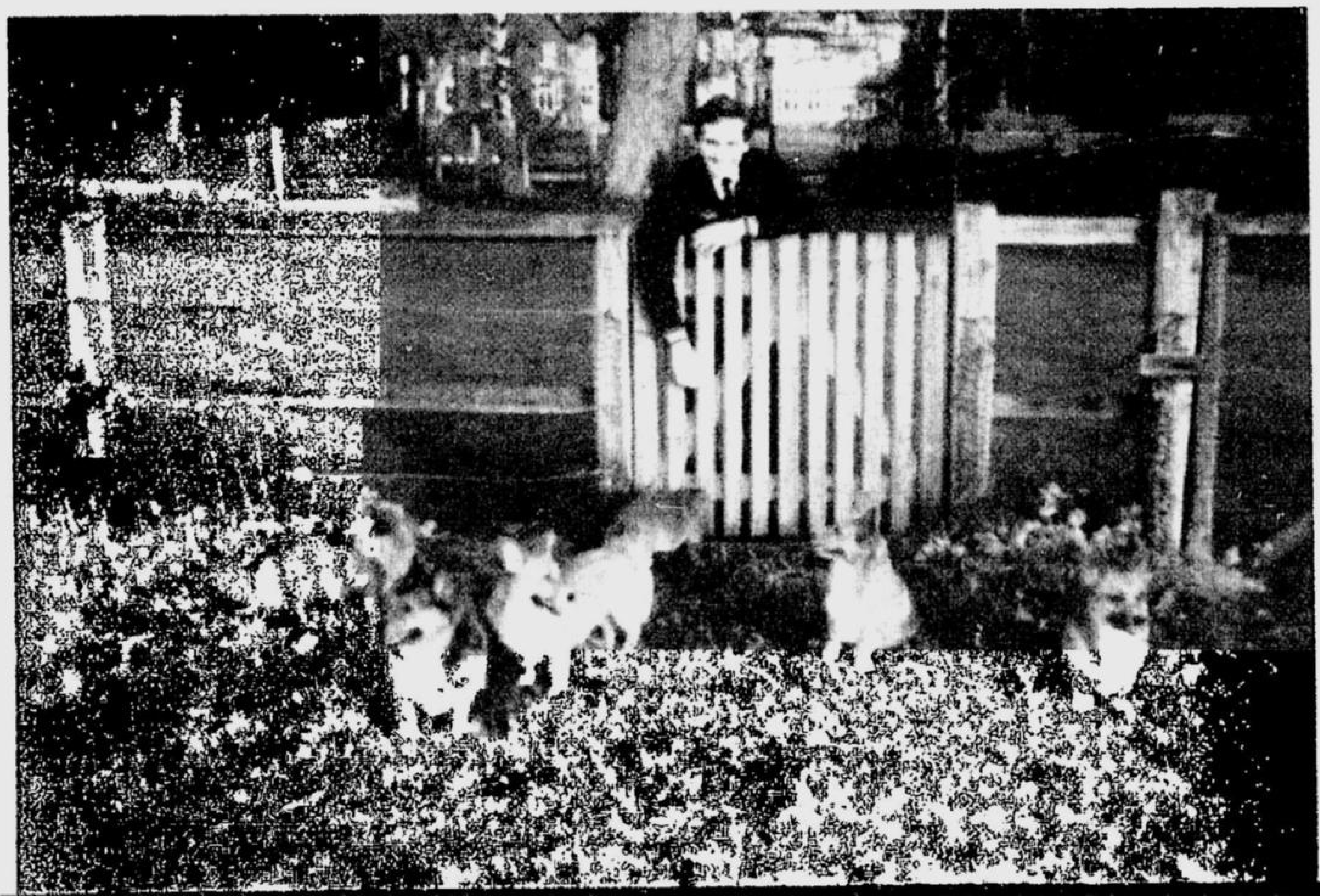
It really was a bit daunting, recalls Langston. "When you first arrive at the Palace, you're not allowed to do anything for the first three months because you spend all of that time training," he says. "Then after that, you spend another three months learning to find your way around. The thing is, if you get lost, you can't keep looking and you don't dare open any doors, because for all you know, you might be in the Royal Quarters. You have to wait for someone to come find you!"

Flying high. Langston poses by King Hussein's helicopter

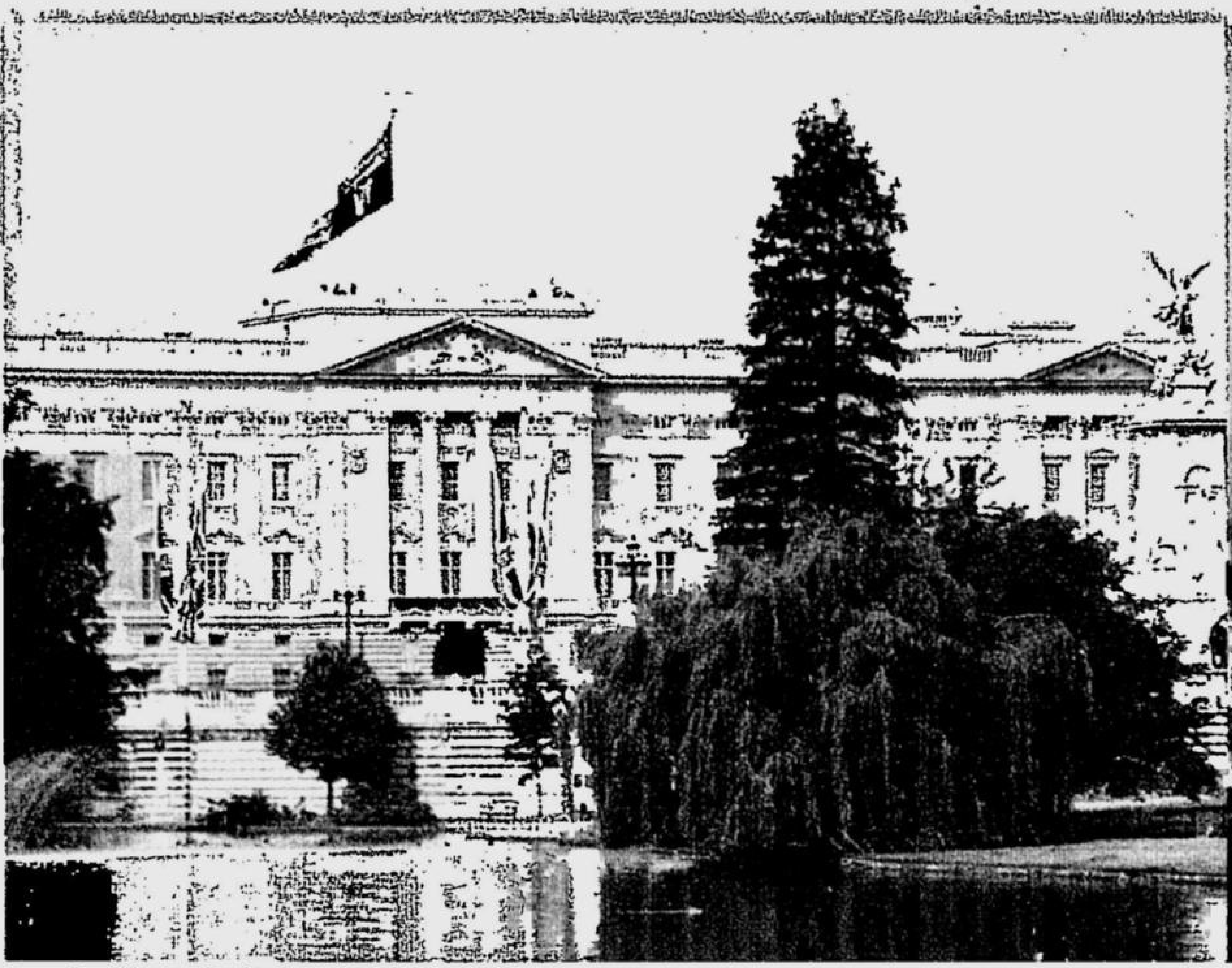
Langston arrived at the Palace a week after Charles and Diana were married. "There was so much going on when I got there," he recalls. He may have missed the Royal wedding, but there was plenty to talk about just the same: Prince Andrew was courting actress Koo Stark, while the Queen's eldest child and only daughter Princess Anne and her husband Captain Mark Philips were in the midst of breaking up. Langston had long left the Queen's service before rumors of Charles' and Diana's marital troubles hit the papers and tabloids. He recalls happier times between the couple, however. "They were like any normal married couple and very much in love. I'd walk in to bring their lunch and they'd be sitting on the sofa, talking and laughing, or playing with the baby on the floor."

While serving the Royal Family, Langston met many famous people. Among the ones he remembers are King Hussein of Jordan (who, during a state visit, lent him a helicopter to get around, gave him a watch with the Royal Crest on it, and bestowed on him a Jordanian knighthood), former US President Ronald Reagan, American evangelist Billy Graham and His Holiness, Pope John Paul II.

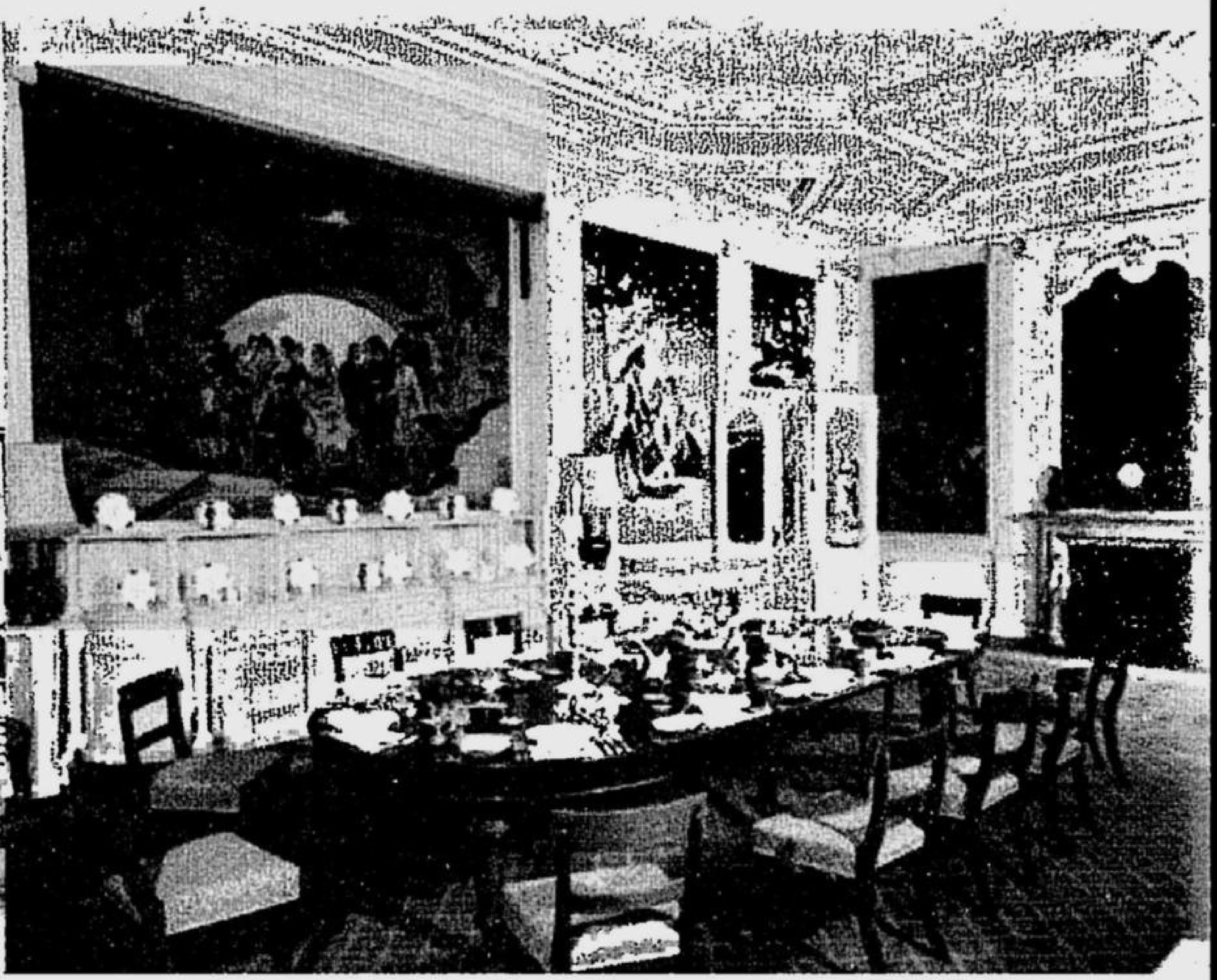
But none made as big an impression on him as the Royals themselves, particularly Diana. He spent a lot of time with her when the first Royal heir made his appearance. "When Prince William was born, he was taken to Balmoral Castle (one of the Queen's residences in Scotland), and I looked after him. I'd go and see Charles and Diana every morning. When Diana would take William for walks, I'd go with them. She would be pushing the pram and I'd walk with



Dog gone: Langston tending to the Queen's corgi puppies



Royal home: Buckingham Palace, where the Queen holds court



A typical table setting for a dinner at Buckingham Palace

them." Langston got on very well with Princess Diana, who was just a year or two younger than he was. He particularly admired her sense of humor. "It was very good," he says.

Asked to relate an incident that typified Princess Diana's sense of humor, Langston recalls: "We were at Balmoral, and I was on a horse. I'm a terrible rider, but there I was, on top of a horse and coming down a mountain slope when I saw the Princess in her Range Rover, coming at me from the opposite direction. The thing is, when you see any of the Royals coming, you're supposed to take off your hat as a sign of respect. So I did, after which I tried to get out of the way. The problem was, the bloody horse wouldn't move!" After several attempts, Langston gave up. Princess Diana's driver had to get out of the Range Rover, walk over to Langston, and move the horse out of the way.

Beet-red from embarrassment, Langston turned to face the Princess. "I'm sorry, Your Royal Highness. I'm just not good at riding a horse." Diana took one look at him and said, "Oh really? I hadn't noticed." The whole time, she was holding her sides and laughing uncontrollably.

Diana's sense of humor was as big as her heart, adds Langston. Her image as a caring Royal was not manufactured one bit. "That's why her death was such a great loss considering the happiness she brought to so many. She had such a strong presence, a warm heart and a genuine concern for people." Langston, who was managing a hotel in Papua New Guinea when Diana died on Aug. 31, 1997 (this year will be her fourth death anniversary), says that like the rest of the world, he, too, was saddened by her death—probably even more so, since he had known the Princess up close. "I don't think you could find one person who wasn't sad that day."

So many people loved Diana not just because of the way she cared for people, but because they admired the way she handled the pressures of Royal life, Langston notes. "It's hard not to admire Diana when you realize what she's been through," he adds. "It's easy for the Royals because they are trained and born into that way of life. But not Diana; she went from being an ordinary person to being the most photographed woman in the world, and I think she handled that really well. For an ordinary person to be put in that kind of situation—and you think of the number of faux pas you could make, like you can't even scratch your nose when you feel like it—you can't help but admire her."

Like most people close to the late Princess, Langston was witness to how the media would not leave Diana alone. "We were walking around the grounds of Sandringham, the Princess, Prince William in his pram and me, when in the distance, about three to five kilometers away, there was a reflection in the sun that was like a mirror. Instinctively, we both knew it was a photographer," he recalls. The photographer was parked in a country lane just beyond the grounds of Sandringham. He had a tripod on top of his car and was trying to angle it for the perfect shot when Langston and Princess Diana spotted him. Because it was his job to protect the Princess, Langston asked her: "What would you like to do, your Royal Highness? Would you like to keep walking, or should we go back?" Princess Diana chose the latter and turned back toward the house, with Langston following behind.

What a life the Princess must have had, to not even be able to take a walk with her son on the grounds of her own home. From the time she married Prince Charles to the time of her death—and even during her funeral—photographers hounded her. This was also true of the Queen and the other Royals, but photographers were especially relentless when it came to Princess Diana. "They followed her around like you wouldn't believe," says Langston. "They'd do anything for the right shot because say, you had a photo of the President of the Philippines, you could probably sell it to 10 newspapers in the Philippines and make some money. But if you had even just one good shot of the Princess, you could sell it to practically every magazine and newspaper in the world and make a lot more."

Though he spent a lot of time with the Royal Family, Langston has no pictures of them or of himself with them. "It's just not correct etiquette to take pictures of them," he says. What he does have are pictures of himself in his Royal Footman's uniform with some of his "mates" or fellow footmen. There are also photos of them on the Royal Yacht Britannia and full-color brochures of Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle and Sandringham House. Besides these pictures and brochures and a cricket bat given to him by the Royals as a Christmas present some years ago, Langston has no souvenirs of his stint at the Palace. He did not dare take even a fork, spoon or knife. "Once you got over the initial shock of being around the Royals, you learn to see it as just another job, and Buckingham Palace as someone's house," explains Langston. "You don't go into someone's house and take the silver or the china, especially if you work for them. It's just not done." Whatever memories Langston has he keeps in his heart.

Most people would consider it a dream job, but Langston left Buckingham Palace after only three years. He felt that it was a good point to move on. "After three years, I had done everything I could. You spend the first year learning the job, the second year memorizing the rules and the third year accompanying the Royals on state visits abroad. I had met many famous people and been to a lot of different countries. I left because it was time, and because I wanted to pursue my dream of working in a commercial environment," says Langston. "Having worked at Buckingham Palace helps you understand the whole idea of standards and how important they are."

Despite his brush with royalty, Langston strikes one as warm and friendly, a complete contrast from the public image of anyone British being stiff and cold. But then, says this expat, he's glad to be in the Philippines where he already feels so much at home.

First Person
by Anthony L. Tan

On the occasion of the esteemed university's 100th anniversary on Aug. 28, this prize-winning poet remembers campus life in the '70s

Silliman: A Personal Journey

WHEN FOR THE FIRST TIME I CAME TO SILLIMAN, I WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE FROM THE LIMITATIONS OF MY ISLAND HOME IN THE SULU SEA. I WAS IN SEARCH OF ANOTHER ISLAND, DISDAINING A HUMDRUM DESTINY THAT WAS MINE AT BIRTH, THE DESTINY MY ANCESTORS, EVEN FROM THEIR GRAVES, SEEMED TO HAVE FOISTED ON ME. I HAD THOUGHT THEN THAT I WAS URGED ON, LIKE TENNYSON'S ULYSSES, BY HUNGER FOR NEW KNOWLEDGE. SO IT WAS THEN THAT IN THE SUMMER OF 1970 I FOUND MYSELF IN SILLIMAN.

Many things crowd my memory when I look back to that time, nearly 30 years ago. I remember the languor and rhythm of the afternoon, the horses' hooves clip-clopping down the asphalt streets, the pleasant rattle the *cochero* made when he touched the spokes of the turning wheel of his tartanilla with the handle of his whip. In the noon heat the sea just off the boulevard would be shimmering and blinding as if someone had thrown a million shards of mirrors on the water. Meanwhile, the boats docked at the wharf, but soon to depart for other ports and to carry away someone to another country, to strange seas and climes.

As a graduate student in English in 1970, I had to enroll in a creative writing class. In summer this class happened to be the famous National Summer Writers Workshop. Although I had no ambition to be a creative writer, I was excited to be in a writers workshop. Here was an opportunity to sharpen my skills in writing even if I did not intend to be a writer. At that time I did not know what exactly I wanted to do with my life.

Some of the writing fellows in the 1970 summer writers workshop, mostly from Manila-based schools like UP, Ateneo and De La Salle, have today become nationally famous, although not all of them turned out to be the poets that they at first thought they would be. Many of course are hardly heard of these days, deciding perhaps to do something better. The few who persevered have become well-known writers and are now harvesting the coveted awards that are given annually by the Manila-based weeklies and the Carlos Palanca Foundation. One name stands out today, Carlos Ojeda Aureus, the Bicolano writer whose book of short stories, "Naguenos," is the Philippine counterpart of James Joyce's "Dubliners." The other famous name is Ricky Lee, a scriptwriter of Tagalog movies. And of course there is Conrado de Quiros, a well-known columnist with the big time Philippine Daily Inquirer.

There were others in that batch who for one reason or another have stopped writing. The members of the panel of critics in the 1970 workshop, aside from Dr. Edilberto K. Tiempo and Dr. Edith L. Tiempo, were Myrna Pena-Reyes, Raymond Llorca, Bien Lumbera and Mig Enriquez.

Since I was not a writing fellow but a graduate student enrolled for credit, I had the leisure to sit back and listen 99 percent of the time to the fellows and critics discuss the manuscripts submitted to the workshop. I remember that the only time I had the opportunity to speak was when Dr. Lumbera thought that it would be good to let the fellows and the students talk first. Uncharacteristic for a timid person like me, I immediately grabbed the opportunity, opened my big mouth, bared my fangs like a dog unleashed.

With the workshop over, we had gone back home and had returned to campus. When classes for the first semester were about to begin, Caloy Aureus, now a friend, asked me to accompany him to the residence of the Tiempos because he had to arrange his class schedules. Dr. Tiempo, or Dad, as we later came to call him, was the dean of the graduate school, and Mom Edith was the head of the English Department. I had no inkling that that very evening, that Friday evening, still warm and pleasant as if the long days of summer were not over yet, the tide of my fortune was going to change.

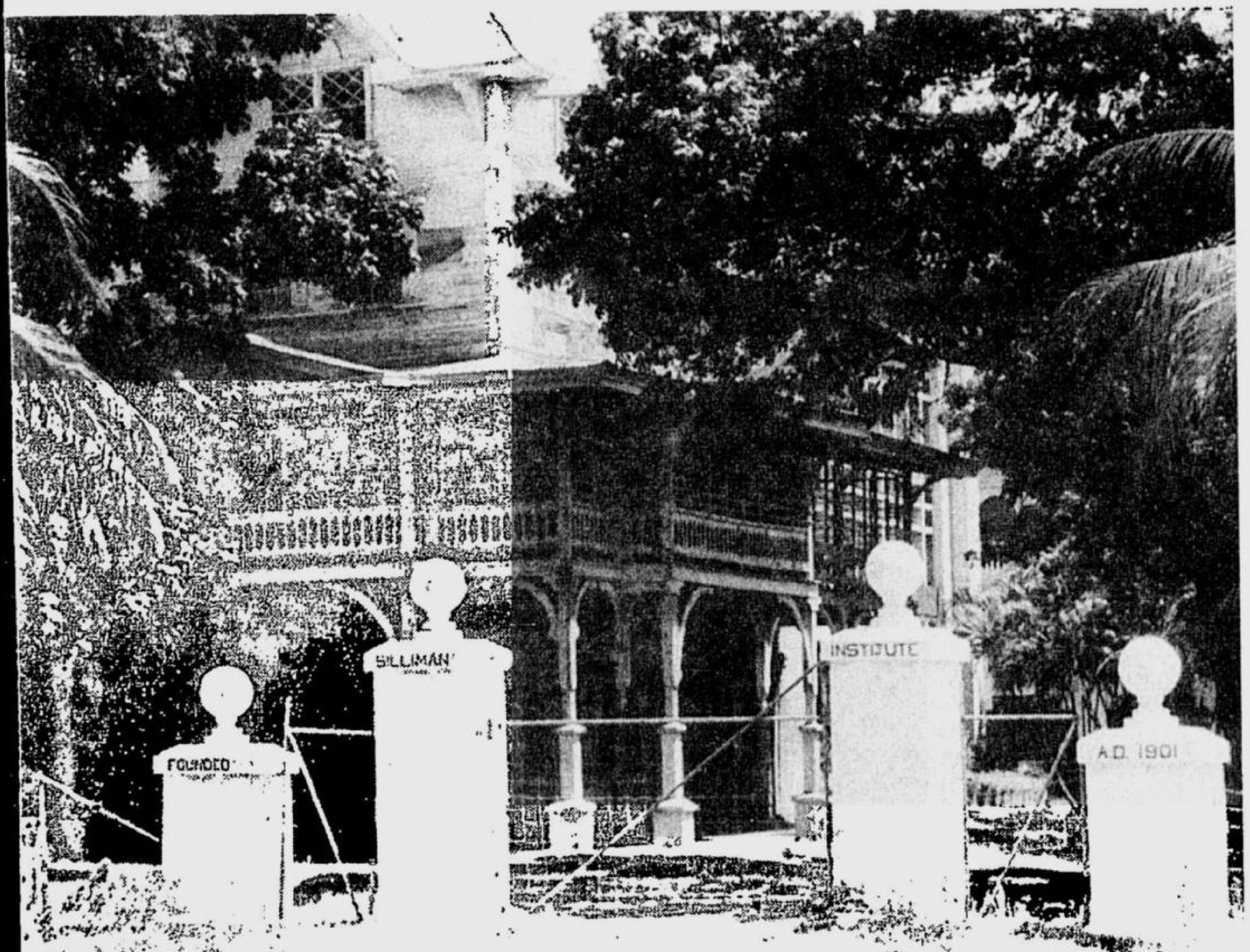
It was my first time to be at the Tiempo residence. I remember the warm glow of the lights in the sala and in the adjacent dining room. While Caloy and the Tiempos were busy with the schedule of Caloy's classes, I sat back, looked around the sala, hardly enjoying the brewed coffee because in two days I had to pack my things up and go back to that God-forsaken island in the Sulu Sea where I came from. The prospect of going back, of repeating history, that is, the family history of store keeping, gave me the sinking feeling that there was no justice in the universe, the feeling of a sailor in a rickety boat driven into the teeth of a storm.

We were walking to the iron gate when some good angel bent over Doc Ed and whispered to him, urging him to ask me what I was going to do. I explained to him my situation and the desire to stay on in Silliman if possible. He said there were available scholarships in the graduate school. Was I willing to work as a graduate fellow and also study for a master's degree? Could I postpone my return trip that Sunday? Could I see him Monday in his office and see what could be done?

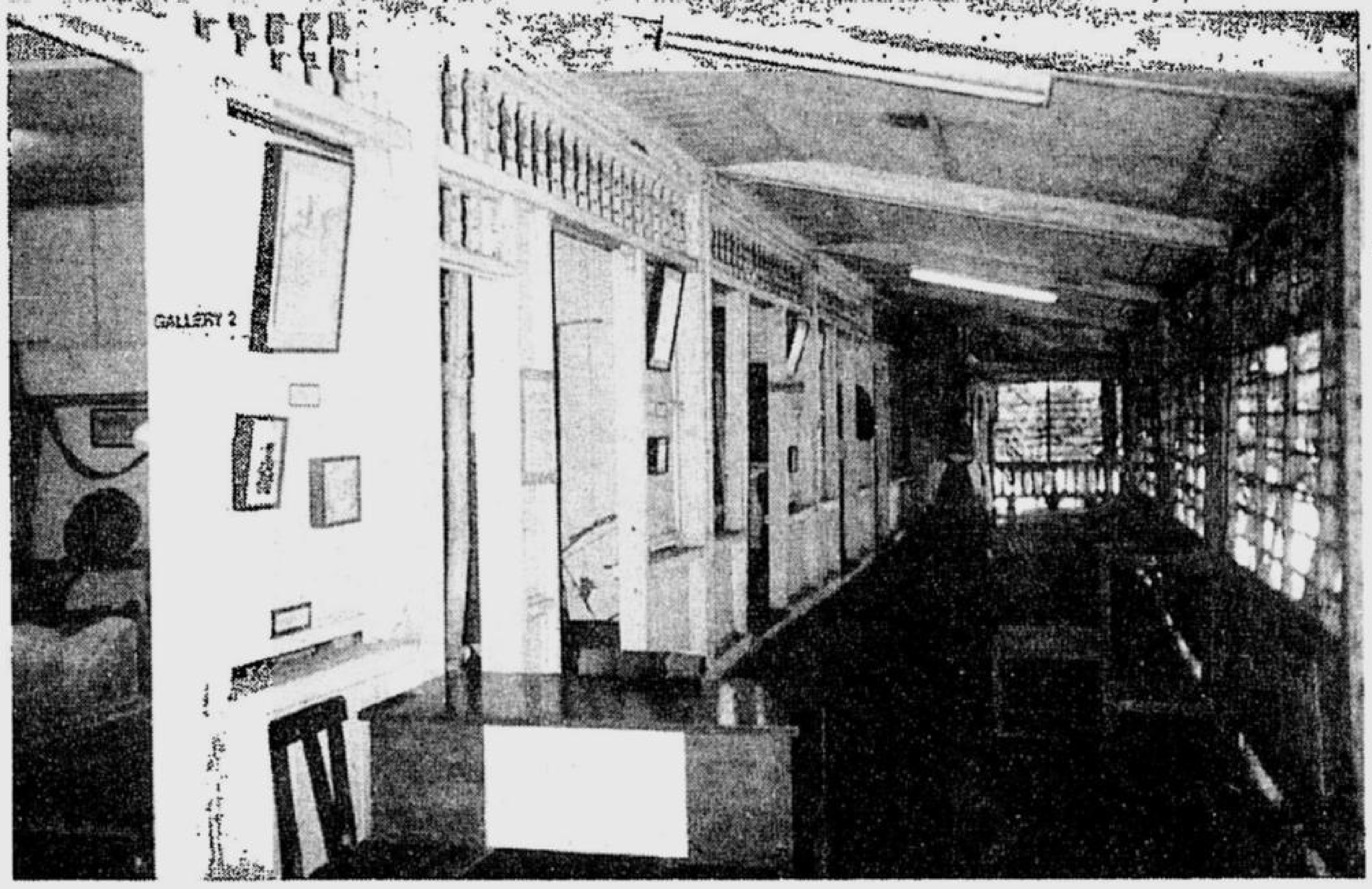
Those words and my affirmative response cancelled out the other possibilities of my life, turned the possibilities to might-have-beens: like I could have been a rich but discontented store keeper on a loveless island, or a rebel with the MNLF. In Dumaguete and Silliman I stayed on and stayed on and stayed on for the next 13 years.

Every year I looked forward to summer and the workshop. In 1972 I worked as the assistant of Joe Torres, the reliable typist of the workshop manuscripts. I mimeographed the stencils that he had cut in that small room on the ground floor of the old library.

The following year I qualified as a writing fellow. I submitted a few poems and a short story about Tausug vengeance. The story was hotly



Old campus buildings hark back to a colorful past



The corridors of Silliman's Museum of Anthropology.

debated by the panelists and writing fellows. I was thrilled by the reactions of the participants, whether they were favorable or otherwise. It was then that I realized that anything about Tausug was interesting to many readers. Somewhere on the fringe of my subconscious I began to entertain the idea of someday writing a novel about my God-forsaken island.

The late Rolando Tinio was a panelist that year, and he played the role of the devil's advocate to the hilt. There was no story or poem that pleased him. I remember an incident where a literature-teacher fellow showed his poem to Mr. Tinio. It was under the acacia tree in front of Larena Hall. A circle of benches surrounded the tree. After a quick reading of the poem, Mr. Tinio dropped the piece of paper, bent down and covered it with a pile of sand, and remarked that the poem deserved the burial. The way he scooped the sand with both hands, wordlessly pouring the grains of sand on the paper, how he quickly stood up and delivered the punch line was a brilliant comic action. We were all entertained. We all laughed, including the mustachioed victim of this joke who, we learned later, he invited to teach with him at the Ateneo de Manila.

Except for the summer of 1976 when I was at the UP Writers Workshop in Diliman, I attended the Silliman workshop every year in various capacities: sometimes as a tour guide to the visiting writing fellows from Manila and Cebu, sometimes as an unofficial, unpaid panelist; and later as jester who entertained the writing fellows with ethnic jokes. I remember those long, carefree evening hours, lying on the ball-field between the men's dorms and the nurses' home, exchanging jokes with the fellows while above us the moon sailed by in the cloudless summer sky.

The writ of habeas corpus was suspended in 1971. The rumor of martial law was in the air. The campus weekly was full of omens and portents of things to come. The excessive presence of Che's bearded image moved one run-of-the-mill lawyer to complain that instead of Che the students ought to hang the picture of the clean-shaven Richard Nixon, then president of the United States. With his lower lip protruding, he asked in earnest, "Why not Nixon?"

We would get free copies of various Marxist writings. Mao's little red book was easily available; the quotations were familiar. "The Internationale," in English and Pilipino, sounded inspiring. When sung in protest against beauty pageants on campus, or some irrelevant cultural shows, it could move you to righteous anger. Let me hasten to add though that the airwaves were still dominated by American pop songs, by "MacArthur Park" and "Leaving on a Jet Plane."

One day the late Sen. Benigno Aquino came to campus, and everybody was at the gym to listen to him. A brilliant, charismatic speaker, he warned the country that Marcos was going to declare martial law, that the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus was merely a dry run in order to gauge the reaction or opposition of the body politic. True enough, exactly a year after the suspension of the writ of habeas corpus, martial law was declared.

The night before Sept. 21, we were already burning our piles of The Weekly Sillimanian, returning the little red book to its rightful owner, removing from the walls and cabinets the pictures of bearded heroes and replacing them with glossy pages from some magazines. So while some of my dorm mates had to flee to the provinces, I stayed in the third floor of Woodward Hall, partly out of necessity because I didn't have the money to go to far Zamboanga.

It took Silliman a long time to open again, probably the last of the private schools to resume classes. The reason was that according to military non-intelligence, Silliman was full of rebels. It had that impression because the campus paper printed Marxist writings, and there was hardly a week when some pictures of Fidel or Che did not grace its pages. But as a matter of fact, there were hardly a hundred students who were really that serious about rebellion. I had been a witness in one protest march against a cultural show held in the gym. There were only about 30 placard-carrying students who marched and shouted in front of the gym. They hardly made a dent on the show inside the gym until an agent provocateur advised them to get into the gym and do their shouting and marching there. Only then did they succeed in disrupting the show.

When school resumed some changes were in order. Before martial law, anyone could get in and out of the campus. After martial law, some wire fences had to be put up per instructions from the military. The freedom to move about was already restricted by the construction of gates near the dormitories. Curfew was imposed on the residents of the dorms. We had to climb the fence once the gates were already closed, or we had to cut away a few feet of wire to make a hole in the fence. The administration, trying to tow the line, had to impose the wearing of short hair. In protest one of my professors had his head shaven.

It took some time before the campus paper was given the license to operate again. When it came back there was none of the usual Marxist writings, absolutely none of the pre-martial law pictures. In its first year of resumption I was the faculty adviser, meaning my job was to see to it that no such thing happened in the paper. On the other hand, the paper did not sing praises to martial law, but went quietly to do its job as a campus paper and as a workshop for aspiring journalists of the College of Mass Communications.

The presence of the wire fences and the uniformed security guards manning the gates made the campus look like one huge garrison. Under the seeming sense of normalcy there was a seething hatred for the dictator. The Silliman community as a whole consistently voted *no* in referendums and plebiscites when the dictator asked for a yes, and *yes* when he asked for a no.

Slowly, imperceptively, people got used to martial law like a puppy getting accustomed to its chains after several days of lusty protest. There were occasional outpourings of hatred for the dictator and his dragon lady. We as graduate students returned to the library to read again the complete works of such and such a poet. It was Eliot, then Auden, then Yeats and Frost and Dylan Thomas. Later it was Conrad, Lawrence, Joyce and James. Then the critics. Even on Saturday nights, when most of the undergraduates were out with their friends, we were in the desolate library poring over books or periodicals.

It took me some time to finish my thesis so I did not graduate until 1975. Caloy had finished earlier; as soon as he had his master's degree, he left Silliman and went to UP. Lack of ambition, a lackadaisical attitude, and the desire to just stay on in Silliman campus were the reasons why I did not finish in two years. But one day it occurred to me that I wanted to move up to Baguio City. To inspire me to get the degree I wrote on a piece of paper "Next Destination: Baguio." I pasted it on the mirror so that I could see it every morning. In one semester I finished the thesis and defended it in time for graduation in March of 1975.

I went to Baguio with the intention of finally moving there, but when I saw the city I was disappointed. The UP Baguio campus was so small. The terrain of the city was so uneven. The houses were perched on hillsides and gave the impression that any rainy time they would fall on the houses just under them on the next tier. I felt like it was being on tenterhooks everyday of your life. I did not want that kind of precariousness. But I think the main reason was that it was too far from the sea. Having grown up on the seashore, I could not for the life of me live far from it.

So I went back to Dumaguete, back to old, cozy Silliman, in the security of the century-old acacia trees. And I stayed on until finally I thought I really needed a change of scenery.

In 1983 I resigned from the English Department, quietly, without fanfare. When Doc Ed learned about it, he did not talk to me. He could not accept that I was leaving, that I who had stayed the longest when everybody else had left for one reason or another, that I too was leaving. I

To page 15

Film

by Alya B. Honasan

One of Manila's most talented directors is a filmmaker at heart, and has kept his artistic integrity by choosing his projects and collaborators very carefully

No "Normal" Person

Johnny Villena

THAT WAS WHAT RAFAEL "CHOLO" LAUREL'S PROFESSOR AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY TOLD HIS CLASS THE DAY HE GRADUATED FROM HIS FILM COURSE IN 1995. "'WHEN YOU LEAVE THIS HALL,' HE TOLD US, 'REMEMBER THAT YOU WILL NO LONGER BE A NORMAL PERSON. YOU WILL BE A FILMMAKER.'"

It was a parting shot that film, advertising and video director Laurel has taken to heart. "The most important things I learned were not technical discoveries. They were about the soul. You learned to be a trouper, ready for life, ready not to have a regular job. They taught you to eat, drink and breathe film, even if you never do a film in your life!"

Six years after he was sent to NYU by his former production house, Electromedia, Laurel has yet to make his first movie. But he has made his mark as one of the most talented video and commercial directors around, a fact again brought to the fore by the eye candy he turned out to launch new songbird Karylle's debut single, "Can't Live Without You." With help from a strong team that included cinematographer Miguel Fabie, stylists Jon Cuyson and Maxie Cinco and choreography icon Geleen Eugenio, Laurel took a day to shoot the fast-paced, slick video that packages Karylle as "a young J.Lo, in control but with oomph. She's very talented, has a good voice and moves very well." The first time he met her, she was timid, Laurel confesses, so he was actually having second thoughts about taking on the job. "I did tell her she had to loosen up. I think she should continue to do so and follow that image as long as she can, and she'll do very well."

"Why should I try to make films in the States when more work is needed here?"

Laurel may not be churning out videos left and right – "although I've done some cheap ones I won't tell you about," laughs this University of the Philippines Broadcast Communication graduate – but the ones he has done have never failed to attract attention. Among them were the dreamy black-and-white story of lost love he created to dramatize Gary V.'s haunting "Until Then," and the modernity-meets-myth celebration of life he directed for Grace Nono's "Anungan," shot amidst fields of lahar. "Until Then" started it all after Laurel's return from New York, and after Gary V.'s wife and manager Angeli Pangilinan liked his work in a TV ad. "You have it," she told Laurel.

Pangilinan also told him that he was expensive by music industry video standards. Laurel's answer? "Well, you get your money's worth. I have the same attitude about work I do for the soul and work I do for the money, which means commercial work. Advertising is really good money, but I also do my best for this because I need to live. Besides, every artful thing can make money for you, but that should not be your motivation, or it will show!"

Laurel began working in advertising after graduation, starting as a producer of TV commercials for agencies before deciding that he wanted to direct. "I knew I had a filmic sense, that I was a visual person." Now connected with the production house ProVil, Laurel is also exploring a recent preoccupation: photography. On a sabbatical from advertising work in 1999, he took a photography course in Rockport, Maine and spent the next month shooting stunning black-and-white works of people in Europe. The results were exhibited at a debut show entitled "1999: Metropolis Captured" at Batavia last year, and he exhibited again recently at the Filipinas Heritage Library. Again, although he does sell his works, the discriminating Laurel still shirks from run-of-the-mill commercial commissions. "I'm not yet in that mode."

Laurel is very aware of his internal motivations, having struggled with depression and the realities of limited work and artistic frustration. "In advertising, people will always be wary of trying someone new. There were days when I would be sitting in the office, not doing any work and wondering, *direktor ba talaga ako?*" The artistic limitations, however, have not discouraged him from staying and working in his home country. "I still have the hope that there will again be a Golden Age for Filipino films. Filipinos are not exactly stupid and artless. Besides, why should I try to make films in the States when more work is needed here?"

Laurel has only recently broken into TV by directing "Myx" on Studio 23, and dreams of doing interesting pop-documentary pieces and eventually trying his hand at telesines. "And then I want to do even just one movie in my life, one movie I can be proud of, that will be in the textbooks."

Laurel the film student on the street of New York, below; above right, at home in Manila

Leaders Among Men

The latest batch of Ramon Magsaysay awardees exemplifies the best in governance and idealism in Asia

EVER SINCE THE RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARD WAS FOUNDED IN 1957, THANKS TO THE ROCKEFELLER BROTHERS FUND IN NEW YORK, INDIVIDUALS AND ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE MADE INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO ASIA IN THE FIELDS OF GOVERNMENT SERVICE, PUBLIC SERVICE, COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP, JOURNALISM, LITERATURE AND CREATIVE COMMUNICATION ARTS, AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING. ALL OF THIS ALSO SERVES AS A FOND REMEMBRANCE OF THE EXAMPLE SET BY THE GUY HIMSELF, PRESIDENT RAMON MAGSAYSAY. THE RAMON MAGSAYSAY FOUNDATION SOLICITS NOMINATIONS FROM QUALIFIED PEOPLE THROUGHOUT ASIA. NOMINATED PERSONS AND GROUPS ARE THEN REVIEWED EXTENSIVELY AND THE WINNERS FETED YEARLY ON MAGSAYSAY'S BIRTH ANNIVERSARY, AUGUST 31. FOR THE 2001 MAGSAYSAY AWARDS, THE NEW CATEGORY OF EMERGENT LEADERSHIP WAS ADDED. THIS YEAR'S WINNERS ARE INDEED FINE EXAMPLES OF THE RMAF'S IDEALS.

Yuan Longping of China received the Award for Government Service after the erstwhile Director General of the China National Hybrid Rice Research and Development Center worked towards increasing China's rice yield through hybridization innovations. China's Wu Qing received the Award for Public Service for her pioneering work in the women's movement. India's Rajendra Singh was honored with the Award for Community Leadership for leading villagers in protecting the environment and revitalizing rivers. For his vibrant and resonant contributions to Sri Lankan music, K.W.D. Amardeva received the Award for Journalism, Literature and Creative Communication Arts. Ikuo Hirayama of Hiroshima, Japan received the Award for Peace and International Understanding for his international efforts in preserving and protecting the world's historical and cultural treasures. There are two inaugural awardees for Emergent Leadership: Cambodia's Oung Chantol, for her efforts in fighting sex trafficking and gender violence, and Indonesia's Dita Indah Sari, for her dynamic work in fighting for the rights of Indonesia's working people.

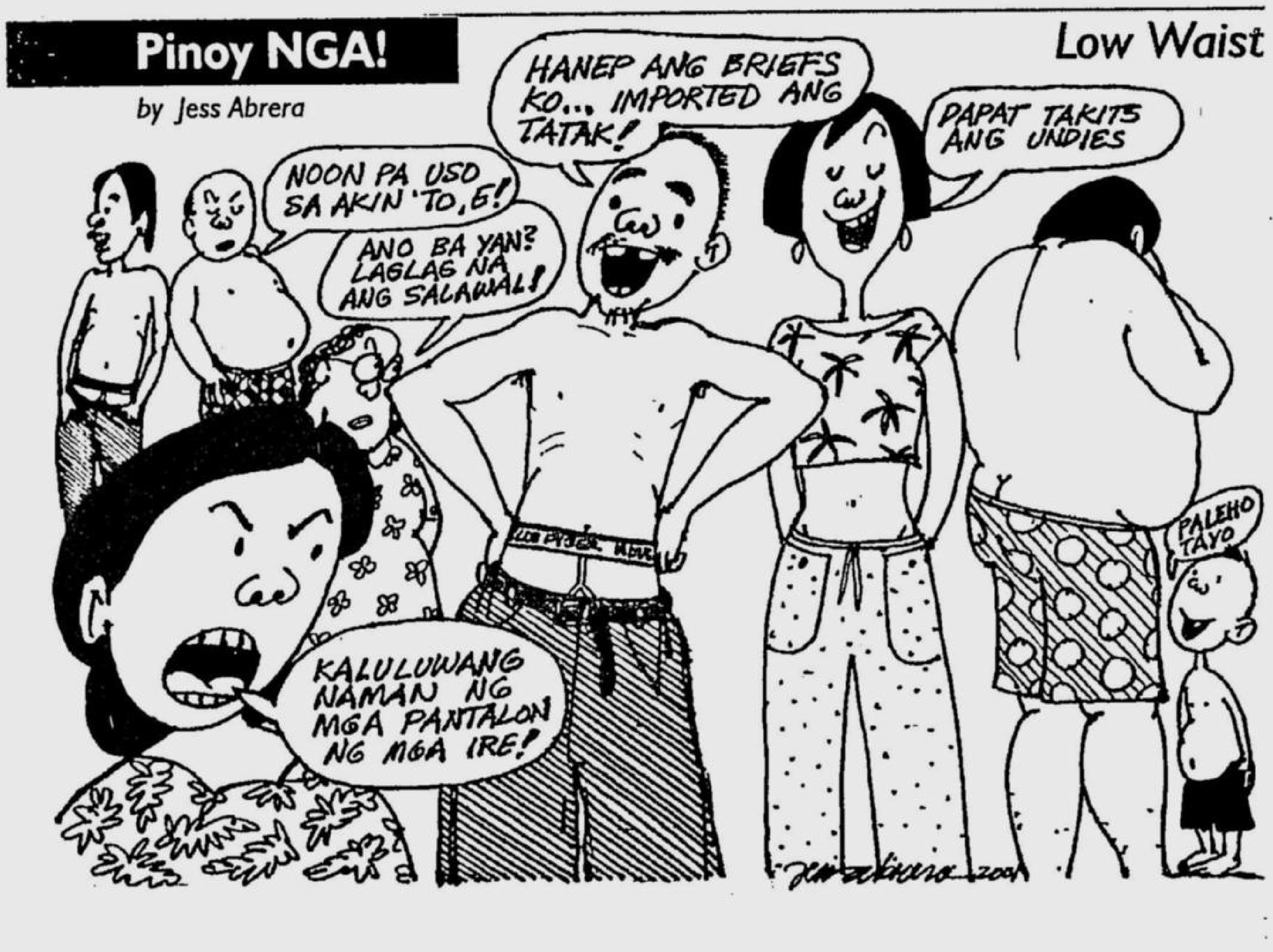
The winners will deliver lectures from August 28 to September 3 at the Ramon Magsaysay Center at 1680 Roxas Boulevard, Manila. The presentation ceremonies will be held on August 31 at the CCP. For inquiries please call 521-3166 to 85 or email rmaf@rmaf.org.ph.

Worthy Winners:
Wu Qing (above)
and Ikuo Hirayama

Pinoy NGA!

by Jess Abrera

Low Waist


HANEP ANG BRIEFS KO... IMPORTED ANG TATAK!
DAPAT TAKITS ANG UNDIES
NOON PA USO SA AKIN 'TO, E!
ANO BA YAN? LAGLAG NA ANG SALAWAL!
PALEHO TAYO
KALULUWANG NAMAN NG MGA PANTALON NG MGA IRE!

FIRST PERSON...from page 13

couldn't shake off that "Et tu, Brutus" feeling. But I had to leave for the sake of my sanity. I am amused now when I remember that morning during the 1983 workshop. Krip Yuson, Cesar Aquino and I were in Krip's room at the Alumni Hall. Dad came in to see Krip, who had just arrived from Manila. Although he talked to both Krip and Cesar, Dad completely ignored me. Oh where is that angel that made him talk to me 13 years ago? I tried to put myself in his shoes. How would a father feel when his son was going away from home?

Life indeed is a series of arrivals and departures, mostly departures, someone said. And when we bid good-bye in this life, we are just rehearsing for the final good-bye we all must bid someday. Another 13 years went by. In September 1996 I learned that Dad had passed away quietly. Like a dutiful son I came to Dumaguete to pay my last respects. I crossed two bodies of water, traveled 10 hours just so I could be at his funeral. For the first time in my life I became a pallbearer and delivered a eulogy. But I envy what Mr. Ernesto Yee did when he learned that Dad had passed away: he went to the house to polish Dad's pair of shoes. I wish I had done that myself, for Dad deserved that act of kindness. In spite of his detractors and enemies, he was a kind man whose heart was not only in the right place but was also, as Cesar Aquino put it in a glowing tribute, as large as Africa.

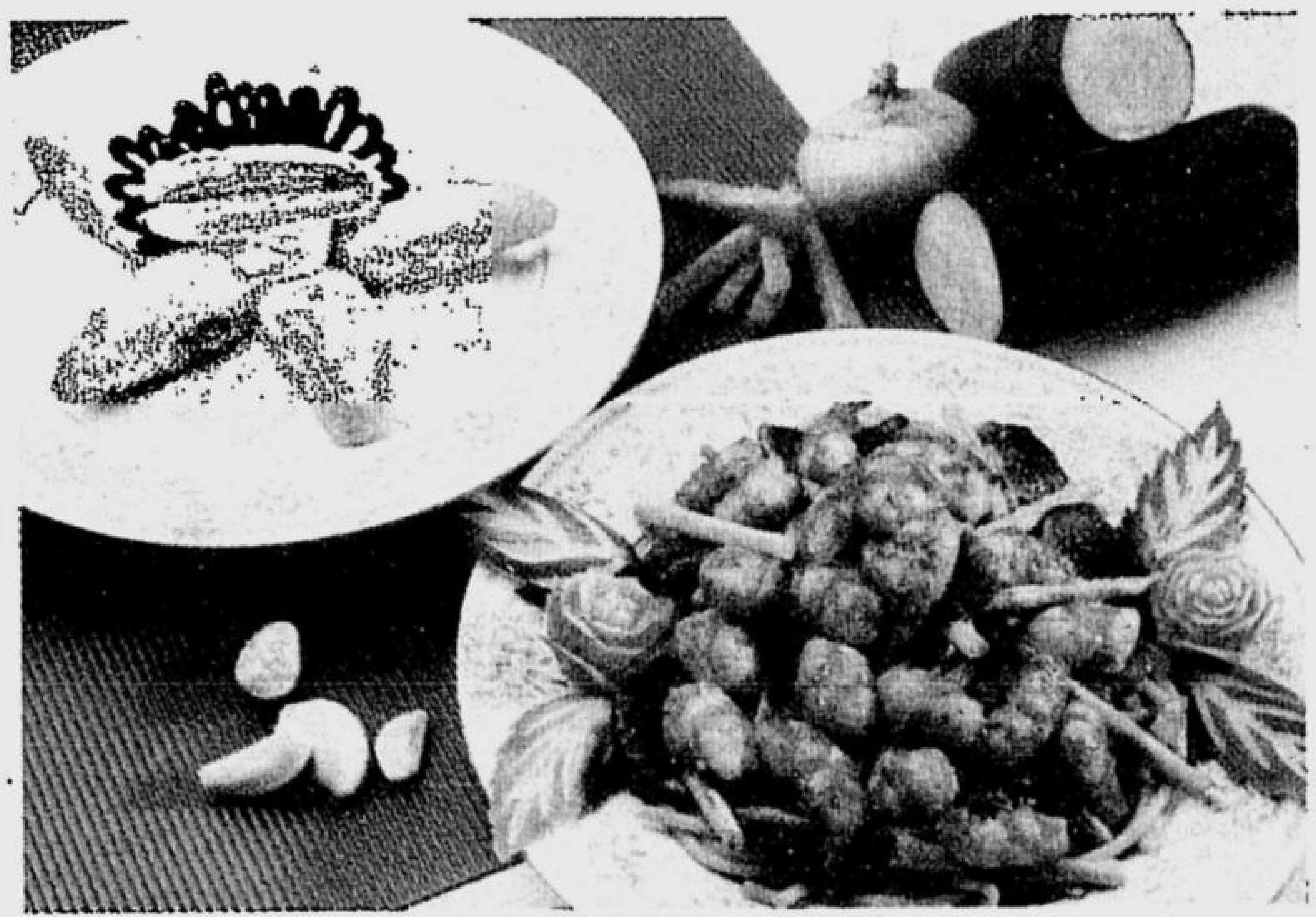
This Week

Art

Iba't-Ibang Kamay, Iisang Buhay ... Filipino, a hands-on exhibit featuring traditional arts and handmade crafts from different parts of the Philippines, to be launched Aug. 30, 6 p.m. at the Museo Pambata, Roxas Boulevard, Manila.

Ten, an exhibit celebrating 10 years of published and unpublished works by members of the *Ang Ilustrador ng Kabataan* at the Upper Level Galleries of the Met Museum, Roxas Boulevard, Manila, until Sept. 1.

9 Objects: A Tribute to Marcel Duchamp. Participating artists include Juan Alcarazen, Roberto Chabet, Nilo Ilarde, Lani Maestro, Bernardo Pacquing, Gary-Ross Pastrana, Lirio Salvador, Wire Tuazon and Alvin Zafra. The exhibit will run until Sept. 1 at the Alliance Francaise de Manille, 209 N. Garcia St., Bel-Air II, Makati City.



Flavors of the East at Raphael Café-Restaurant, Manila Galleria Suites, Ortigas

Eulogy to the Filipino, an exhibit ranging from mixed media on canvas to free-standing sculptures in black granite by Roberto M.A. Robles at Galleria Duemila and Gallerie Y, 4/L SM Megamall Building A, Mandaluyong, until Sept. 9.

Kalikasan, an exhibit of the recent works of Mar Bongalon featuring still life, flowers, country scenes and churches done in oil and pastel at the GSIS Museum of Art, GSIS Building, Financial Center, Pasay City until Sept. 15.

Homeworks, an exhibit of works on paper and sculptures by Aba Dalena until Sept. 5 at the Lopez Museum Shop, G/F Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Center, Makati.

Faith on the Periphery by Norberto Roldan is currently on view until Aug. 31 at Green Papaya Art Projects, 304 Sterten Place Condominium, 116 Maginhawa St., Teachers Village East, Quezon City.

Music

Freestyle will hold a special concert at Padi's Mindave (Mindanao and Congressional Avenues, QC) on Aug. 27, while **Anna Fegi** performs on Aug. 30. Padi's also invites college students to join its essay writing competition in English, not exceeding 2,000 words with the theme "Vision of the Philippines in Year 2050." Deadline is Nov. 5. For details, call 453-0080 or 414-4930 to 34.

Like an Eagle, a farewell concert of the UP Staff Chorale before it embarks on a tour of North America for a concert. Set on Aug. 31, 6:30 p.m. at the Abelardo Hall, College of Music, UP Diliman, Quezon City. Admission is free.

Pinoy rock goes simultaneous and cross-continental on August 24 when the New York City-based The Philippine Independent Communications, Inc. (The Indie) launches its "rockzine" and "children's fund drive" in Los Angeles and Manila. Billed **Breakin' Barriers: The Pinoy Rocks From LA to Manila** the gig at Mayric's features The Jerks, Cocojam, Put3ska, Battery, Lastiko, Poetic, Koza Nostra, Subzero, Half-life Half-death and Noel Cabangon. Tickets are available at the gate at P150. For inquiries, call 0919-3510115, 532-5062 or email oobina@hotmail.com.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café :QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

Onstage

Crave, Sarah Kane's surrealistic cornucopia of searing and shocking images of woman's abuse, male violence, power and desire as interpreted by Anton Juan. Onstage at the Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero Theater, UP Diliman until September. For inquiries, call 924-8589 and 924-3224.

The Vagina Monologues, Filipino version opens Aug. 31 at the Music Museum and runs until Sept. 15.

Macbeth. A classic play about obsession and ambition by Shakespeare translated in Filipino by Rolando Tinio. Regular performances will run until Sept. 15 at the CCP Tanghalang Huseng Batute, Roxas Blvd., Pasay.

Rated: eX, a showcase of four one-act plays—Daigdig sa Pagitan by Ruth Mabanglo; Tag-ani by Amelia Lapeña-Bonifacio; May Isang Sundalo by Rene Villanueva; Aksidente by Elmo Gonzaga—that seeks to expose the bare truths about human society. Presented by Entablado, the production will be staged at the Rizal Mini Theater of the Ateneo de Manila until Sept. 8.

Cinema

The Orphan Brother, a full-length Japanese animation film included in the line-up of films for the next Eiga Sai 2001: Anime on Parade. To be held at the CCP Audio Visual Room, Aug. 27-30, and at Cinema 2, Shangri-La Plaza Mall until Sept. 4.

Food

Flavors of the East. Feast on the taste of the East and indulge on sumptuous Asian foods at the Raphael Café-Restaurant, Manila Galleria Suites, Ortigas Center, Pasig City until Sept. 1.

Applications for the **Pinoy Nouvelle Cuisine Cookfest 2001** are now being accepted. Open to all Filipino chefs, the cookfest aims to encourage innovations on traditional Filipino food. Deadline for application is Oct. 10. For inquiries, contact the Cookfest secretariat at 897-5630 or the Daily Manila Shimbun Culture Center office at 4F Montivar Bldg., 34 Jupiter St., Bel-Air, Makati.

Edsa Shangri-La's Inaho Tei treats noodle lovers to a wide selection of soba and udon specialties in addition to the all time Japanese favorites in the ala carte menu. The **Udon Fest** runs until Aug. 31.

Hot Pot Specials. Enjoy a myriad of steaming hot specialties at Holiday Inn Manila's Pavilion Court. Available until Aug. 31 for lunch and dinner.

Atbp

Submissions in poetry, short fiction, and drama are being accepted for the **Ateneo National Writers Workshop,** which will be held from Oct. 15 to 20. Applicants should submit portfolios containing any of the following: eight poems, five stories, or three one-act plays in Filipino or English—along with a clean diskette containing the portfolio in word document (doc) or rich-text format (rtf). Each set must bear a title page with the author's pseudonym and a table of contents. The submission should include a sealed envelope containing the pseudonym, the author's real name, address, contact numbers, and a one-page biodata with an 1x1 ID picture. Deadline for submission is Sept. 10, 2001.Address entries to: The Director, Ateneo National Writers Workshop, c/o Filipino Department, Dela Costa Building, Ateneo de Manila University, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. For inquiries, call 426-6001 local 5320 and look for Jing Panganiban or Mel Estrelles, or email <filipino@admu.edu.ph>.

Curtain Call (125) Selected Reviews: 1957 to 2000 by National Artist for Dance Leonor Orosa Goquingco. To be launched at the CCP Main Theater Lobby, Aug. 29 at 6 p.m.

The Blue Eagles Gymnastics Academy offers **gymnastics classes** for boys and girls at the Ateneo de Manila High School covered court, Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City. For inquiries, call 411-9054 or 920-8657.

Published by Bookmark, Inc., **The Hills of Sampaloc: The Opening Actions of the Philippine-American War, February 4-5, 1899,** by Dr. Benito Legarda, Jr. is now available at the Filipino Bookstore and Bookmark.

Titser Din Si Mama, Titser Din Si Papa, a whole day seminar sponsored by the CFC-School of the Morning Star. Open to parents and other people working with young children. To be held Sept. 1 at No. 6 Cabanatuan Rd., Philam Homes, Quezon City.

Self Transformation Seminar, a three-day seminar on self-mastery and self development, on Sept. 2, 8 and 9. For inquiries, call Abet or Lily at 741-5740 or 743-1181.

ULEN: The Path to Power. The seminar will discuss and demonstrate practical principles and techniques for developing psychic power, attaining a magnetic personality, knowing your past lives and achieving peace and prosperity. To be held Sept. 1 at Kingswood Makati Clubhouse, Vito Cruz Extension corner Pasong Tamo, Makati City.

VISCOMM (Visual Communications) is now accepting students for its September art and creative writing workshop. For inquiries call Eleanor at 740-7221 or (0917) 909-2238.

Reiki Healing Methods, free public lecture sponsored by CBCM and the Philippine Theosophical Society today (Aug. 26) at the Phil. Theosophical Society, No. 1 Iba St. cor. P. Florentino, Quezon City.

X-manila

Peregrine, an exhibit of oil paintings depicting subjects that usually greet a visitor while traveling to Davao by Mei Afable, until Sept. 6 at Gallery 5, 5/F JS Citimall, Ilustre St., Davao City.

Arkitekturang Filipino, an exhibit of Philippine architectural legacies, monuments and heritage sites at the Museo ning Angeles, Angeles City, until Sept. 10.

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules and tickets. You can reach us by e-mail at sim@inquirer.com.ph or by fax at 897-4811.